

# Olivia Figueira

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Usable Privacy, System Auditing and Compliance, Privacy Legislation and Regulation, Children's and Adolescents' Online Privacy, Human-Computer Interaction (HCI).

## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. Student in Computer Science** 2021 – Present  
University of California, Irvine (UCI)  
**Advisors:** Athina Markopoulou and Scott Jordan
- M.S. in Computer Science** 2023  
University of California, Irvine (UCI)
- B.S. in Computer Science and Engineering** 2021  
Santa Clara University (SCU), Santa Clara, CA  
Magna Cum Laude and University Honors  
Minor in Mathematics  
**Thesis:** "Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data", advised by Yuhong Liu

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal & Conference Papers

**DiffAudit: Auditing Privacy Practices of Online Services for Children and Adolescents**  
Olivia Figueira, Rahmadi Trimananda, Athina Markopoulou, Scott Jordan  
*Under Submission*

**VBIT: Visualizing and Blocking of IoT Trackers via a Mixed Reality and Web-Based System**  
Jad Al Aaraj, Olivia Figueira, Tu Le, Isabela Figueira, Rahmadi Trimananda, Athina Markopoulou  
*Under Submission*

**DeepPhish: Understanding User Trust Towards Artificially Generated Profiles in Online Social Networks**  
Jaron Mink, Licheng Luo, Natã M. Barbosa, Olivia Figueira, Yang Wang, Gang Wang  
*USENIX Security Symposium, 2022*

**Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data**  
Olivia Figueira, Yuka Hatori, Liying Liang, Christine Chye, Yuhong Liu  
*IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC), 2021*

### **Distress Among Undergraduates: Marginality, Stressors and Resilience Resources**

Paula Nurius, Yasaman Sefidgar, Kevin Kuehn, Jake Jung, Han Zhang, Olivia Figueira, Eve Riskin, Anind Dey, Jennifer Mankoff  
*Journal of American College Health*, 2021

### **Technical Reports**

#### **Privacy of Virtual Reality: Our Future in the Metaverse and Beyond**

Authors: Girard Kelly, Jeff Graham, Jill Bronfman, Steve Garton

Contributors: Olivia Figueira, Aya Nouiouat

Common Sense Media, Privacy Program, 2022

### **Op-Eds**

#### **Meet Me in the Metaverse: Location Privacy in Virtual Reality**

Olivia Figueira

Common Sense Education, Privacy Articles, 2022

## **EXPERIENCE**

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### **Graduate Student Researcher**

*2021 – Present*

UCI Networking Group, NSF SaTC Frontier ProperData, University of California, Irvine

- Research interests include children's and adolescents' online privacy and safety, privacy regulation, network traffic and privacy policy auditing for systems, and privacy in emerging platforms.
- Investigating privacy behaviors of online services directed towards children and adolescents, age assurance/verification mechanisms, parental consent mechanisms, and parental controls.
- Designing usable and human-centered privacy-protecting tools across services and devices.
- **Advisors:** Athina Markopoulou and Scott Jordan

### **Privacy Engineering Intern**

*Summer 2022*

Common Sense Media, San Francisco, CA

- Advanced internal privacy policy evaluation machine learning system by developing improved policy text processing and trained to become a privacy policy evaluator.
- Consulted on and contributed to research report about privacy of virtual reality.
- **Host:** Jill Bronfman, Privacy Program

### **Undergraduate Researcher**

*2020 – 2021*

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Santa Clara University

- Analyzed COVID-19 public sentiment on social media to better understand the public's reaction to public health policies enacted in several states in the United States.
- **Publication:** "Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data", *IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference*, 2021.
- **Advisor:** Yuhong Liu

## Undergraduate Researcher, DREU Program

Summer 2020

Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Designed a user study to determine how well users can identify fabricated social media profiles, such as for social engineering, containing generated natural language content and deep fake images.
- **Publication:** “DeepPhish: Understanding User Trust Towards Artificially Generated Profiles in Online Social Networks”, *USENIX Security Symposium*, 2022.
- **Advisor:** Gang Wang

## Undergraduate Researcher, DREU Program

Summer 2019

Make4All Lab, Paul G. Allen School for Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington

- Examined the impact of cumulative adversity on mental health in college students using actively reported data from surveys and passively reported data from wearable devices.
- **Publication:** “Distress among undergraduates: Marginality, stressors and resilience resources”, *Journal of American College Health*, 2021.
- **Advisor:** Jennifer Mankoff

## PRESENTATIONS

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- **Auditing Privacy Practices of Online Services for Children and Adolescents**, Poster Presentation, ProperData Annual Symposium, 2023
- **Privacy-Enhancing Technologies to Protect Children Online**, Poster Presentation, ProperData Annual Symposium, 2022
- **Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data**, Paper Presentation, IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC), 2021
- **Cumulative Adversity: The Contribution of Correlated Stressors on Mental Health in College Students**, Poster Presentation, Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) Conference, 2019

## HONORS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

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- Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS) Conference Scholarship 2024
- Mentoring Excellence Certificate, Graduate Division, University of California, Irvine 2024
- GREPSEC VI Workshop Scholarship 2023
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Honorable Mention 2023
- CRA-WP Grad Cohort Workshop for Women 2023
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon Scholar of the Year Award 2021
- Society of Women Engineers Intel Graduate Scholarship 2021
- Student Life Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- James W. Reites, S.J. Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- Outstanding Computer Science and Engineering Senior Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- Engineering Ethics Prize Honorable Mention, Santa Clara University 2021
- IEEE Women in Engineering Frances B. Hogle Scholarship 2020
- Dean’s List, Santa Clara University 2019 – 2021
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon ACM Student Chapter Scholarship Award 2019

- CRA-WP Grace Hopper Celebration Conference Research Scholarship 2019
- Grace Hopper Celebration Conference Student Scholarship 2019
- University Honors Program, Santa Clara University 2018 – 2021
- Dean’s Scholar, Santa Clara University 2017 – 2021

## SERVICE & OUTREACH

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### Leadership Positions

- **Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS) Student Chapter** – UCI  
*Positions: President (2023 – Present), Vice President (2021 – 2023)*
- **Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society Student Chapter** – SCU  
*Position: President (2020 – 2021)*
- **School of Engineering Peer Advising Program** – SCU  
*Positions: Lead Peer Advisor (2019 – 2021), Peer Advisor (2018 – 2019)*
- **Association for Computing Machinery Women’s Student Chapter (ACM-W)** – SCU  
*Positions: Co-President (2018 – 2020), First-Year Representative (2017 – 2018)*

### Speaking Engagements

- **Invited Panelist**, National Center for Women in Information Technology (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing (AiC) Awards Ceremony, UCI Office of Outreach, Access & Inclusion, 2024
- **Invited Talk**, “My Journey in Computer Science”, Pathways to Computing for Women of Color (PCWOC) Meeting, UCI Office of Outreach, Access & Inclusion, 2022

## TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

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**Alumni Mentor, Mentor Collective**, Santa Clara University (2021 – Present)  
Alumni mentor for first-year students in the School of Engineering.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, University of California, Irvine  
Systems Engineering & Technical Communications (Winter 2022, Winter 2023)  
Master of Computer Science Program Capstone Writing & Professional Communication (Spring 2022)

## RELATED COURSEWORK

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**Graduate:** Data Privacy, Research in HCI, Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods, Machine Learning, Scientific Computing, Reinforcement Learning, Probabilistic Learning, Statistical Natural Language Processing, Computer Networks, Embedded Systems and Ubiquitous Computing

**Undergraduate:** Machine Learning, Operating Systems, Computer Security, Computer Networks, Compilers, Programming Languages, Theory of Algorithms, Web Programming, Software Engineering

## SKILLS

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**Research Skills:** Cross-Platform Network Traffic Analysis, System Privacy Auditing, Qualitative and Quantitative Research, HCI Research Methods, Privacy Policy Analysis & Evaluation

**Languages:** Python, C/C++, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, React/React Native

## HONOR SOCIETIES

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- Upsilon Pi Epsilon Computing Honor Society *2021 – Present*
- Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honor Society *2020 – Present*
- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society *2019 – Present*

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) *2021 – Present*
- Order of the Engineer *2021 – Present*
- Society of Women Engineers (SWE) *2021 – Present*
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) *2018 – Present*
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) *2017 – Present*