

# Blakeley H. Payne

## Curriculum Vitae

blakeleyhpayne.com

✉ blakeley.hoffman@colorado.edu

### Research Interests

Broadly, I am interested in understanding the impact of computing technology on marginalized people and communities and developing technology design and research practices that account for historical systems of oppression. My primary focus is on the relationship between computing technology, fat oppression, and fat liberation. I seek to understand how technology mediates fat oppression and how fat people appropriate and resist technology for liberation.

**Keywords:** Technology ethics, research ethics, fat liberation, fat studies, feminist HCI, ethical AI, marginalized communities, social computing

### Education

- 2022 - **University of Colorado Boulder**  
Present Doctoral Student in Information Science advised by Casey Fiesler
- 2017-2020 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
Master of Science in Media Arts and Sciences
- Thesis: "Can my algorithm be my opinion?: An Ethics of Artificial Intelligence Curriculum for Middle School Students" Available at: <https://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/127488>
  - Committee: Cynthia Breazeal (advisor), Ethan Zuckerman
- 2013-2017 **University of South Carolina**  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics

### Research Experience

- 2020 - **University of Colorado Boulder: The Internet Rules Lab**  
Present *Graduate Research Assistant*
- 2018-2020 **MIT Media Lab: Personal Robots Group**  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- 2017-2018 **MIT Media Lab: Scalable Cooperation**  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- Summer 2016 **University of California at Berkeley: EECS NSF REU**  
*Undergraduate Research Assistant*
- 2015 **Washington University in St. Louis Summer Engineering Fellowship Program**  
*Undergraduate Research Assistant*

## Professional Experience

- Summer 2023 **Mozilla Foundation: Responsible Computing Challenge**  
*Educational Consultant*
- 2021 **Tang Institute at Philips Andover Academy**  
*Content Writer*
- July 2020-  
Feb 2021 **Algorithmic Justice League**  
*Educational Consultant*
- Summer 2017 **Adobe Research: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**  
*Graduate Research Assistant*
- Summer 2017 **NSF REU in Applied Computational Robotics, University of South Carolina**  
*Program Coordinator*

## Teaching Experience

- Fall 2023 **University of Colorado Boulder**  
*Teaching Assistant*  
Course: Computational Reasoning 1: Information Transformation
- Fall 2021 **AI Ethics for Lawyers**, *Guest Lecture for Internet Law*, Instructor: Tiffany Li, University of New Hampshire School of Law.
- Spring 2020 **AI Ethics for K-12**, *Guest Lecture for Democratizing AI through K-12 AI Education*, Instructor: Cynthia Breazeal, MIT Media Lab.
- Fall 2019 **Ethical Design**, *Guest Lecture for Universal Design: Accessibility, Inclusivity, and Equality*, Instructor: Matt Marber and Alexandra Benbadais, Tufts University Exchange
- Spring 2019 **AI Ethics for K-12**, *Guest Lecture for Democratizing AI through K-12 AI Education*, Instructor: Cynthia Breazeal, MIT Media Lab.
- Spring 2016 **University of South Carolina**  
*Teaching Assistant*  
Course: Data Structures and Algorithms

## Publications

\*Indicates co-first-authorship.

### Conference Proceedings

- [CP5] Jessie J. Smith, **Blakeley H. Payne**, Shamika Klassen, Dylan Thomas Doyle, Casey Fiesler. "Incorporating Ethics in Computing Courses: Barriers, Support, and Perspectives from Educators." The Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE TS '23), March 15 – 18, 2023, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Available at: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3545945.3569855>

- [CP4] Daniella DiPaola\*, **Blakeley H. Payne\*** Cynthia Breazeal. "Decoding Design Agendas: An Ethical Design Activity for Middle School Students." *Proceedings of the Interaction Design and Children Conference (IDC)*. Virtual London, United Kingdom, June 2020. Available at: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3392063.3394396>]
- [CP3] Safinah Ali\*, **Blakeley H. Payne\***, Randi Williams\*, Hae Won Park, and Cynthia Breazeal. "Construct-ionism, Ethics, and Creativity: Developing Primary and Middle School Artificial Intelligence Education." *Presented in the International Workshop on Education in Artificial Intelligence K-12 (EDUAI '19)*. *Proceedings of IJCAI 2019*. Macao, China, August 2019. Available at: <http://bit.ly/construct-ethics-creativity>
- [CP2] Ziv Epstein\*, **Blakeley H. Payne**, Judy Hanwen Shen, Casey Jisoo Hong, Bjarke Felbo, Abhimanyu Dubey, Matthew Groh, Nick Obradovich, Manuel Cebrian, Iyad Rahwan. "TuringBox: An experimental platform for the evaluation of AI systems." *Proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)* Stockholm, Sweden, July 2018. Available at: <https://www.ijcai.org/Proceedings/2018/851>
- [CP1] Gustavo Malkomes, Kefu Lu, **Blakeley Hoffman**, Roman Garnett, Benjamin Moseley, Richard Mann. "Cooperative Set Function Optimization Without Communication or Coordination." *Proceedings of the 16th Conference on Autonomous Agents and MultiAgent Systems (AAMAS)*. São Paulo, Brazil, May 2017. Available at: <https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/111241/1/aamas.pdf>

#### Book Chapters

- [BC1] Daniella DiPaola\*, **Blakeley H. Payne\***, Cynthia Breazeal. "Preparing Children to Be Conscientious Consumers and Designers of AI Technologies." In *Computational Thinking Education in K-12* (Siu-Cheung Kong and Harold Abelson, editors). **Cambridge: MIT Press, 2022.**

#### Lightly Reviewed

#### Workshops

- [W1] Rachel Fox, Marquisele Mercedes, Monica Kriete, and **Blakeley H. Payne**. Workshop: "Critiquing Fat Oppression in the Age of Wegovy." *International Weight Stigma Conference*, June 28-29, 2023, Denver, CO, USA.

#### Workshop Position Papers

- [WP1] Ziv Epstein, **Blakeley H. Payne**, Judy Hanwen Shen. "TuringBox: An experimental platform for the evaluation of AI systems." *Workshop on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency in Machine Learning (FATML)*. Stockholm, Sweden. August 14, 2017

#### Posters

- [P1] **Blakeley H. Payne**, Jordan Taylor, Katta Spiel, Casey Fiesler. "How to Ethically Engage with Fat People in Research." *Forthcoming, CSCW '23.*

---

## Public Scholarship

- [PS3] **Blakeley H. Payne.** (January 2021). "Opening Remarks on Algorithmic Injustice." *The State of AI Ethics by the Montreal AI Ethics Institute*. Available at: <https://montrealetics.ai/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-State-of-AI-Ethics-Report-January-2021.pdf>
- [PS2] **Blakeley H. Payne.** (3 June 2020). "Generation AI: Teaching a new kind of tech savvy." *MIT Media Lab Medium*. Available at: <https://medium.com/mit-media-lab/generation-ai-teaching-a-new-kind-of-tech-savvy-623e6821032f>
- [PS1] **Blakeley H. Payne** (21 November 2017). "Congress's proposed tax bill would undermine STEM and accelerate inequality." *Vox Recode*.

---

## Press Coverage

- [M9] **It's time to abolish the fat villain trope.** Sarah Stark. *Inverse*. 1 March 2022. Available at: <https://www.inverse.com/entertainment/abolish-the-fat-villain-trope>
- [M8] **Why these middle schoolers are the key to ethical AI.** Sarah Scoles. *Popular Science*. 25 September 2021. Available at: [https://apple.news/AamnUM\\_5kSoC9Zrqb75bkuw](https://apple.news/AamnUM_5kSoC9Zrqb75bkuw)
- [M7] **Play this bingo game with your kids to teach them about AI.** Karen Hao. *MIT Technology Review*. 27 December 2019. Available at: <https://www.technologyreview.com/s/614938/ai-mit-bingo-game-to-teach-about-kids-ai/>
- [M6] **Imagining a different world.** Aida Rogers. *AHA! USC Honors College Alumni Magazine*. 16 December 2019. Available at: [https://issuu.com/schonors/docs/19-11369\\_aha\\_\\_\\_fall\\_2019\\_](https://issuu.com/schonors/docs/19-11369_aha___fall_2019_)
- [M5] **How should we teach Gen Z about AI?** Mia Dand. *Data Driven Investor*. 30 September 2019. Available at: <https://medium.datadriveninvestor.com/how-should-we-teach-gen-z-about-ai-c34837254200>
- [M4] **Kids are surrounded by AI. They should know how it works.** Karen Hao. *MIT Technology Review*. 13 September 2019. Available at: <https://www.technologyreview.com/s/614306/kids-are-surrounded-by-ai-they-should-know-how-it-works/>
- [M3] **MIT developed a course to teach tweens about the ethics of AI.** Jenny Anderson. *Quartz*. 4 September 2019. Available at: <https://qz.com/1700325/mit-developed-a-course-to-teach-tweens-about-the-ethics-of-ai/>
- [M2] **Teaching Kids the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence.** Cristina Quinn. *WGBH Boston*. 31 July 2019. Available at: <https://www.wgbh.org/news/science-and-technology/2019/07/31/teaching-kids-the-ethics-of-artificial-intelligence>
- [M1] **How to Teach Kids about AI.** Michelle Ma. *The Wall Street Journal*. 13 May 2019. Available at: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-to-teach-kids-about-ai-11557759541>

---

## Invited Talks and Panels

- Sept 2022 **Beyond Bias: Envisioning Just Futures in Computer Science.** Project CS Girls Gala. **Virtual.**
- Apr 2021 **Toward fat justice in technology.** MIT Media Lab Technology and Justice Group. Cambridge, MA (virtually).
- Feb 2021 **Fat justice and HCI.** Social Dynamics and Wellbeing Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology. Atlanta, GA (virtually).
- Oct 2020 **Dealing with despair: how to teach tech ethics in trying times.** Future Tense Conference. New York City, NY (virtually).
- Aug 2020 **Teaching AI Ethics with the Ethical Matrix.** The ethi{CS} Summer Project by the Tang Institute at Andover. Andover, MA (virtually).
- July 2020 **Can my algorithm be my opinion?: reflections on ethics education work.** MIT Visualization Group. Cambridge, MA (virtually).
- July 2020 **Can my algorithm be my opinion?: The Importance of Ethics in K-12 AI Education.** Software Education Foundation Fest. South Korea (virtually).
- Nov 2019 **Will YouTube pay attention to our ideas?: AI + Ethics in Middle School.** AAAI Fall Symposium on Teaching AI in K-12. Washington, D.C.
- Oct 2019 **I'm buzzing about... Emerging Tech & CS Ed.** CSforALL. Salt Lake City, UT., *Invited Panelist*
- Oct 2019 **Ethics in K-12 Computer Science Education.** CSforALL. Salt Lake City, UT., *Invited Panelist*
- Oct 2019 **Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, and Ethics.** Harvard Club of Boston. Boston, MA., *Invited Panelist.*
- May 2019 **Kids and AI.** Wall Street Journal Future of Everything Festival. New York City, NY.

---

## Honours and Awards

- 2020 **Lighthouse3's 100 Brilliant Women in AI Ethics**
- 2019 **USC Young Honors Alumni Award**  
Award given annually to one alumni under the age of 35
- 2017 **National GEM Consortia Fellow**  
Tuition and stipend fellowship for underrepresented students in STEM graduate programs
- 2013-2017 **Carolina Scholar**  
Most prestigious undergraduate scholarship at the University of South Carolina

---

## Academic and Professional Service

- 2023-2024 **CU Boulder Graduate Peer Mentoring Program**  
Mentor
- Oct 2023 **CSCW Student Volunteer**
- 2019 **MIT Media Lab Student Advocacy Group**

- 2018 **IJCAI Student Volunteer**
- 2015-2017 **Women in Computing, University of South Carolina**  
Co-president and Founding Member

---

## Reviewing

- 2023 **FAccT (PC Member), CHI, CSCW, SIGCSE**
- 2022 **CHI, NordiCHI**
- 2021 **CHI**
- 2018 **HRI**