

GRACE E. JENNINGS (SHE/HER)

949.887.1181 | GRACEEJENNINGS@GMAIL.COM | [GITHUB.COM/GRACEJENNINGS](https://github.com/GraceJennings) | BERKELEY, CA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Data science for societal impact, ethics and fairness in AI, machine learning, natural language processing

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley
PhD, School of Information

Berkeley, CA
Aug. 2026 - Present

Vanderbilt University

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering

Nashville, TN
Aug. 2017 - May 2021

Disciplines: Computer Systems and Networks, Intelligent Systems and Robotics

Senior Design Project: **RadPixel: Real-Time and Post-Process Characterization of an Imager Under Radiation**

Trinity College Dublin with Consortium for Advanced Study Abroad
School of English, School of Computer Science and Statistics

Dublin, Ireland
Jan. 2020 - May 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Quantifying the prevalence and impact of overreaching causal claims in social science

Calvin Isch, Timothy Dörr, Neil Fasching, **Grace Jennings**, Duncan Watts
Nature Human Behaviour, 2026

Narrative License and Model Sycophancy in LLM Summaries of Scientific Work

Grace Jennings, Calvin Isch

In Proceedings of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers), 2026

Decentralized Optimization of Vehicle Route Planning—A Cross-City Comparative Study

Brionna Davis, **Grace Jennings**, Taylor Pothast, Ilias Gerostathopoulos, Evangelos Pournaras, Raphael E. Stern
IEEE Internet Computing, vol. 25, no. 3, pp. 34-42, 2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Computational Social Sciences Lab (CSSLab) - University of Pennsylvania

Pre-Doctoral Researcher

Philadelphia, PA
Nov 2024 - May 2026

- Studying how data-driven systems shape social systems and public discourse
- Data engineering for the Penn Media Accountability Project (PennMAP)

Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) - MIT

Research Intern

Cambridge, MA
July 2019 - Aug. 2019

- Trained on MOOS, an open-source software for providing autonomy on marine robotics platforms
- Administered in water demonstrations to explore the human-robot interface and autonomous robot competition

Science of Design for Societal-Scale Cyber-Physical Systems Virtual Organization

Vanderbilt University; Technical University Munich

Nashville, TN; Munich, Germany

Research Intern

Jan. 2019 - Dec 2019

- Studied route assignment on traffic networks and added a feature to the existing decentralized optimization framework that assigns origins to the vehicles based on the population distribution in the area to improve upon random origin assignment
- Compared levels of agent altruism, or willingness to accept less preferred routes, in vehicle coordination and the effects on network-level performance, *IEEE Internet Computing* 2021

Emerging Technology Lab - W'ondry at Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

Autonomous Vehicle Group

Oct 2018 - May 2019

- Working on a team to develop an autonomous golf cart; deepening my understanding of ROS and C++ with real applications

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

HLSL & DirectX Shader Compiler - Microsoft

Seattle, WA

Software Engineer

Aug. 2021 - Nov. 2022

- Extended API options and fixed critical bugs on the DirectX Shader Compiler to meet graphics performance goals in Windows PC and Xbox games, working closely with partner game studios and hardware vendors
- Collaborated with developers in the LLVM open-source community on the early implementation of HLSL, DirectX, and Vulkan graphics support into LLVM and Clang, gaining in-depth knowledge of compiler architecture and optimizations

Windows Operating System - Microsoft

Remote

Software Engineer Intern

May 2020 - Aug. 2020

- Enabled automatic attachment of a dashboard tool for the Kubernetes deployment interface in the Windows Admin Center

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant - Java Programming and Problem Solving

Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN

SERVICE & PROJECTS

RadPixel: Real-Time and Post-Process Characterization of an Imager Under Radiation

Nashville, TN

Institute for Space and Defense Electronics - Vanderbilt University

Sept. 2020 - May 2021

- Designed and built an application that analyzes the transient effects and degradation of data from imagers due to radiation to effectively distinguish between events, noise, and permanent imager damage

Generation Action - Planned Parenthood of Tennessee and North Mississippi

Nashville, TN

Generation Action Chapter Co-Founder, Community Organizer and Clinic Volunteer

March 2019 - May 2021

- Applied for and awarded a chapter building grant of \$5,000 to fund Generation Action founding and recruited over 300 students as new members to become one of the largest organizations on Vanderbilt's campus
- Organized both students and community members in political and legislative action efforts

Change++ - Vanderbilt

Nashville, TN

Software Developer Lead

Aug 2019 - April 2021

- Worked on small teams to develop software solutions for nonprofits

Vanderbilt Students Volunteer for Science

Nashville, TN

Team Leader

Sept. 2017 - Dec. 2018

- Taught 30 local elementary school students robotics and coding using Ozobots, Wedos, and NXT Mindstorms weekly

SKILLS & MISC

Languages: C++, Java, Python, C, JavaScript, R

Relevant Coursework: Topics in Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, Probability & Statistics - Engineering, Statistics Laboratory, Program Design and Data Structures, Java Programming and Problem Solving, Intermediate Software Design, Technical Communications, Mobile and Wireless Networks, Advanced Telecommunications, Knowledge Engineering

Affiliations: Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity, Queer in AI

Interests: Mentoring and community organizing; Reading; Food: cooking, baking, fermentation; The Outdoors: camping, hiking, skiing