Golnaz Moharrer

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Portfolio
Google Scholar

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), MD, USA
Ph.D. in Human-Centered Computing (2022 - Present)
University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran
M.Sc. in Industrial Design (2017 - 2020)
Alzahra University, Tehran, Iran
B.Sc. in Industrial Design (2012 - 2017)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, UMBC, MD, USA
Research on self-expression in digital technologies for enhancing well-being (2022 - Present)
Advisor: Dr. Andrea Kleinsmith
Graduate Research Assistant, UMBC, MD, USA
Research project on "Robot Dance Partner," exploring embodied interaction, self-expression, and affective computing with social robots (Summer 2025)
Advisors: Dr. Andrea Kleinsmith and Dr. Ramana Vinjamuri
Graduate Research Assistant, University of Tehran, Iran
Thesis: Remote Interactive Projector Design (2018 - 2020)
Advisor: Dr. Mehran Fateminia
Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Tehran, Iran
Thesis: Interior Lighting Design Inspired by Persian Culture (2016 - 2017)
Advisor: Dr. Parvin Shokri

PUBLICATIONS

Moharrer, G., Rajendran, K., Pinto, R., Kleinsmith, A. (2025). "Write! Draw! Move!: Investigating the Effects of Positive and Negative Self-Reflection on Emotion through Self-Expression Modalities" Proceedings of ACM ICMI.
Moharrer, G., Zhang, K., Kleinsmith, A. (2025). "Useless Yet Meaningful: How Open-Ended Creative Tasks Impact Emotions and Growth" Proceedings of ACM CHI. (In preparation)
Damadi, S., Moharrer, G., Cham, M., Shen, J. (2023). "The Backpropagation Algorithm for a Math Student." International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

HCC629:Fundamentals of HCI, UMBC (2024, 2025) (Graduate Level)
HCC746:Affective HCI, UMBC (2024) (Graduate Level)
HCC636:Structured Systems Analysis Design, UMBC (2023) (Graduate Level)
HCC741:Introduction to Assistive Technology and Access Research, UMBC (2023, 2025) (Graduate Level)
MGMT210:The Practice of Management, UMBC (2023, 2025) (Undergraduate Level)
Rhino Software, University of Tehran (2019) (Graduate Level)
Mathematics I, Alzahra University (2013) (Undergraduate Level)
Physics I, Alzahra University (2013) (Undergraduate Level)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Fika Committee Member (UMBC HCC) (2022 - 2024)
Student Volunteer, ACM UIST (Pittsburgh, PA, October 2024)
Student Volunteer, ACM C and C (Virtual, June 2025)

Work Experience

MillerKnoll, Inc., MI, USA
Mixed Methods Research Intern (May 2024 - Aug 2024)
Led a project for the CMF (Colors, Materials, Finishes) Group in Healthcare to identify gaps and opportunities using a mixed-methods approach.
UMBC ISRC, MD, USA
Lab Manager (Aug 2022 - Aug 2023)
Managed lab operations, showcased lab capabilities, and worked with eye tracking, Leap Motion, and motion capture systems.
Orez Co., Tehran, Iran
Lead Purse and Accessories Designer (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021)

Achievements and Awards

- Third place winner, 2019 Startup Pitch Competition, Science and Technology Park, Tehran, Iran
- Recipient of $1500 funding grant for designing and 3D printing a modular glass prototype
- Ranked 59 among nearly 200,000 participants in the 2012 nationwide undergraduate entrance exam
- Accepted into the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents (NODET), Iran

Technical Skills

- Programming: Python, JavaScript, Processing, Arduino
- 3D Modeling: Rhinoceros, 3DsMax, KeyShot
- Graphic Design: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign