

# Eleanor O'Rourke

Northwestern University  
2133 Sheridan Rd, Ford 3-325  
Evanston, IL 60208  
<http://homes.cs.washington.edu/~eorourke>  
[eorourke@northwestern.edu](mailto:eorourke@northwestern.edu)  
413-259-7352

---

## Appointments

**2016 – present. Northwestern University, Evanston IL.**

Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in Computer Science and the Learning Sciences.

**2009 – 2016. University of Washington, Seattle, WA.**

Graduate Research Assistant.

## Education

**2016 Ph.D., Computer Science & Engineering**

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Thesis: *Educational Systems for Maximizing Learning Online and in the Classroom*

Advisor: Zoran Popović

**2012 M.S., Computer Science & Engineering**

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Advisor: Richard Anderson

**2007 B.A., Majors in Computer Science and Spanish**

Colby College, Waterville, ME

Graduated Summa Cum Laude

## Awards and Honors

Google Anita Borg Scholarship, 2015

Society of Women Engineers Outstanding Female Engineer Award, 2014

Best Paper Nomination: EDM 2013

Best Paper Nomination: CHI 2012

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship: Honorable Mention, 2011

Microsoft Research Graduate Women's Scholarship: Recipient, 2010

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship: Honorable Mention, 2010

Member of the Phi Beta Kappa Chapter of Maine at Colby College, 2007

## Journal and Conference Publications

- [1] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Erin Peach, Carol S. Dweck, Zoran Popović (2016). *Brain Points: A Deeper Look at a Growth Mindset Incentive Structure for an Educational Game*. The Third Annual ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S 2016).
- [2] Oleksandr Polozov, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Adam Smith, Luke Zettlemoyer, Sumit Gulwani, Zoran Popović (2015). *Personalized Mathematical Word Problem Generation*. Proceedings of the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2015)
- [3] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Erik Andersen, Sumit Gulwani, Zoran Popović (2015). *A Framework for Automatically Generating Interactive Instructional Scaffolding*. Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2015).
- [4] Yun-En Liu, Christy Ballweber, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Eric Butler, Phonraphee Thummaphan, Zoran Popović (2015). *Large-Scale Educational Campaigns*. ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI 2015).
- [5] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Kyla Haimovitz, Christy Ballweber, Carol S. Dweck, Zoran Popović (2014). *Brain Points: A Growth Mindset Incentive Structure Boosts Persistence in an Educational Game*. Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2014).
- [6] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Christy Ballweber, Zoran Popović (2014). *Hint Systems May Negatively Impact Performance in Educational Games*. The First Annual ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S 2014).
- [7] Yun-En Liu, Travis Mandel, Eric Butler, Erik Andersen, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Emma Brunskill, Zoran Popović (2013). *Predicting Player Moves in an Educational Game: A Hybrid Approach*. The Sixth International Conference on Educational Data Mining (EDM 2013). **Best Paper Nomination**
- [8] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Eric Butler, Yun-En Liu, Christy Ballweber, Zoran Popović (2013). *The Effects of Age on Player Behavior in Educational Games*. International Conference on the Foundations of Digital Games (FDG 2013).
- [9] Erik Andersen, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Yun-En Liu, Richard Snider, Jeff Lowdermilk, David Truong, Seth Cooper, Zoran Popović (2012). *The Impact of Tutorials on Games of Varying Complexity*. Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2012). **Best Paper Nomination**
- [10] Rohit Chaudhri, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Shawn McGuire, Gaetano Borriello, Richard Anderson (2010). *FoneAstra: Enabling Remote Monitoring of Vaccine Cold-Chains Using Commodity Mobile Phones*. ACM Symposium on Computing for Development (DEV 2010).
- [11] Victoria Interrante, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Leanne Gray, Lee Anderson, and Brian Ries (2007). *A Quantitative Assessment of the Impact on Spatial Understanding of Exploring a Complex Immersive Virtual Environment using Augmented Real Walking versus Flying*. Proc. of the 13th Eurographics Symposium on Virtual Environments.

## Workshop Papers, Extended Abstracts, Works In Progress

- [1] **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Yvonne Chen, Kyla Haimovitz, Carol S. Dweck, Zoran Popović (2015). *Demographic Differences in a Growth Mindset Incentive Structure for Educational Games*. The Second Annual ACM Conference on Learning at Scale Works in Progress (L@S WIP 2015).
- [2] Richard Anderson, Eric Blantz, David Lubinski, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Mark Summer, and Krysta Yousoufian (2010). *SmartConnect: Last Mile Data Connectivity for Rural Health Clinics*. 4th ACM Workshop on Networked Systems for Developing Regions (NSDR 2010).
- [3] Victoria Interrante, Lee Anderson, Brian Ries, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, and Leanne Gray (2007). *Experimental Investigations into the Feasibility of Using Augmented Walking to Facilitate the Intuitive Exploration of Large Scale Immersive Virtual Environments* [Abstract]. Proc. of the 4th Symposium on Applied Perception in Graphics and Visualization (APGV 2007). vol. 253. ACM, New York, NY, p.144.
- [4] Victoria Interrante, Brian Ries, **Eleanor O'Rourke**, Leanne Gray, Jason Lindquist, and Lee Anderson (2007). *Evaluating Alternative Metaphors for Augmented Locomotion Through Large-Scale Immersive Virtual Environments* [Abstract]. Journal of Vision, 7(9):145, 145a.

## Teaching Experience

### **Instructor**

EECS 330: Human-Computer Interaction, Northwestern University, Winter 2017

### **Teaching Assistant**

CSE 481D: Games Capstone, University of Washington, Spring 2014

CSE 143: Computer Programming II, University of Washington, Summer 2011

### **Guest Lecturer**

CSE 481D: Games Capstone, University of Washington, Seattle WA. May 3, 2016

CSE 481D: Games Capstone, University of Washington, Seattle WA. May 6, 2014

Women's Studies Class, The Bush School, Seattle WA. November 1, 2013

## Mentoring and Advising

### **Undergraduate Students**

Armaan Shah, collaborative and competitive computer science games (March 2017 – Present)

Grace Alexander, growth mindset incentives for programming (January 2017 – Present)

Morgan Walker, growth mindset incentives for programming (January 2017 – Present)

Lily Zhang, growth mindset incentives for programming (January 2017 – Present)

Josh Shi, collaborative and competitive computer science games (January 2017 – Present)

Erin Peach, interactive tutorials in Refraction (January 2013 – April 2015)

Mallika Mathur, growth mindset incentives for Refraction (June 2013 – August 2013)

### **Computer Science Education Team** (April 2015 – June 2015)

Advised a team of 13 undergraduate students on a project that uses my framework for automatically generating instructional scaffolding to create content for introductory computer science concepts.

## Presentations

- [1] *Brain Points: A Deeper Look at a Growth Mindset Incentive Structure for an Educational Game.*  
ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S 2016), Edinburgh, UK. April 25, 2016.
- [2] *Educational Systems for Maximizing Learning Online and in the Classroom.*  
Rising Stars in EECS Workshop, MIT, Boston MA. November 9, 2015.
- [3] *A Framework for Automatically Generating Interactive Instructional Scaffolding.*  
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI 2015), Seoul, South Korea. April 21, 2015.
- [4] *Automatically Generating Interactive Instructional Scaffolding.*  
Computer Science & Engineering Symposium, University of Washington, Seattle WA. January 9, 2015.
- [5] *Women in Game Design*, Panelist.  
Seattle Association for Women In Science Series, Seattle WA. December 17, 2014.
- [6] *Brain Points: A Growth Mindset Incentive Structure Boosts Persistence in an Educational Game.*  
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI 2014), Toronto, Canada. May 1, 2014.
- [7] *Brain Points: A Growth Mindset Incentive Structure Boosts Persistence in an Educational Game.*  
DUB Group Seminar, University of Washington, Seattle WA. April 23, 2014.
- [8] *Hint Systems May Negatively Impact Performance in Educational Games.*  
ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S 2014), Atlanta, GA. March 4, 2014.
- [9] *Techniques for Maximizing Learning in Educational Games.*  
General Examination, University of Washington, Seattle WA. January 29, 2014.
- [10] *Brain Points: A Growth Mindset Incentive Structure for Educational Games.*  
Industrial Affiliates Day, CSE, University of Washington, Seattle WA. October 23, 2013.
- [11] *The Effects of Age on Player Behavior in Educational Games*, Joint presentation with Eric Butler.  
International Conference on the Foundations of Digital Games (FDG 2013). May 16, 2013.
- [12] *The Impact of Tutorials on Games of Varying Complexity*, Joint presentation with Erik Andersen.  
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2012). May 7, 2012.
- [13] *Smart Connect: Investigating Low-Bandwidth Communication for Peripheral Health.*  
Qualifying Examination, University of Washington, Seattle WA. February 24, 2011.
- [14] *Smart Connect: A Communication Link for Peripheral Health Facilities.*  
Industrial Affiliates Day, CSE, University of Washington, Seattle WA. October 27, 2010.

## Community Service

### **Center for Game Science Outreach, 2011 – present**

Organized school visits to the Center for Game Science involving research presentations and gameplay.

### **Prospective Student Visit Days Co-Chair, UW CSE Department, 2013**

Worked with faculty, staff, and students to organize visit days, with a focus on recruiting female students.

**Graduate Mentoring Program Coordinator, UW CSE Department, 2011 – 2013**

Re-designed the mentoring program for new graduate students, and served as program coordinator.

**Change Seminar Organizer, UW CSE Department, 2010-2011**

Coordinate talks by external speakers and facilitate group discussions.

## Academic Service

**Grant Referee**

2017 National Science Foundation: Education & Human Resources – Advancing Informal STEM Learning

**Program Committee**

2017 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (*CHI 2017*)

2017 Technical Symposium on Computing Science Education (*SIGCSE 2017*)

2017 Foundation for Digital Games, Games for a Purpose Track (*FDG 2017*)

**Reviewer**

2017 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Late-Breaking Work (*CHI LBW 2017*).

2016 ACM User Interface Software and Technology Symposium (*UIST 2016*).

2016 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (*CHI 2016*).

2016 ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (*CSCW 2016*).

2015 Conference on Human-Computer Interaction with Mobile Devices and Services (*Mobile HCI 2015*).

2015 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (*CHI 2015*).

2014 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (*CHI 2014*).

2013 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Works-In-Progress (*CHI WIP 2013*).

2013 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Student Game Competition (*CHI SGC 2013*).

## Industry Employment

**Associate Developer, Outcome Sciences, Cambridge, MA (2007 – 2009)**

Position as a full-time developer for Outcome Sciences (now Quintiles), a medical research company focused on developing patient registries. Work on a team of five using Java, Java Servlets, AJAX, CSS, and SQL to develop new studies and update existing studies. View more online at [quintiles.com](http://quintiles.com)