

racheljakab

portfolio:
racheljakab.com

rajakab@gmail.com
412.401.0065

Human-Computer Interaction professional with extensive international experience seeking a career in user research and interaction design

SKILLS

Research & Design:

Interaction Design
Contextual Inquiry
Heuristic Evaluation
Usability Testing
Competitive Analysis
Prototyping
Task Analysis
Storyboarding
Wireframing
Workflows
Typography

Software:

Sketch
Invision
Photoshop
Illustrator
InDesign
AfterEffects
Dreamweaver
Balsamiq
Keynote

Computer Languages:

HTML & CSS
Arduino

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH & GRANTS

National Science Foundation Research Grant

Arlington, VA; Summer 2005
Awarded full grant.

Independent Research at the Athienou Archaeological Project in Cyprus

Dean Rusk Grant & Abernathy Grant

Davidson College; Summer 2006
Awarded independent research grants to investigate archaeological findings

INTERESTS

I love crafting things from scrapbooks to cards, trying to finish the stacks of books by my bed, outdoor adventures that let me explore new places, everything British from clotted cream to Doctor Who, and all of film, from the history to celebrity news.

References available upon request

EDUCATION

Masters Human Computer Interaction; August 2012

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

GPA: 4.05

Courses: User-Centered Research and Evaluation, Prototyping, Human Factors, Interaction Design Fundamentals, Interaction Design Studio, Gadgets & Sensor Recognition in HCI, Social Web, Designing Mobile Services

MSc Material and Visual Cultures of the Past; May 2009

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

Dissertation: Social Impact of Hollywood Film Industry on WWII British Society and Culture

BA History and Classics, cum laude; May 2007

Davidson College, Davidson, NC

Study Abroad: Cambridge University 2006;

Davidson Classics Trip, 2005: semester abroad program; Intensive academic program encompassed on-site field study of ancient Greece, Turkey, Egypt and Italy

WORK EXPERIENCE

Upwork (formerly oDesk); January 2013-Present

Interaction Designer

Responsible for researching, design, prototyping and testing user flows for different areas of the product, including client and freelancer onboarding, job post, and feedback. Created a user research and usability testing process, implemented on all major projects. Researched, developed and evangelized new personas across the company.

Carnegie Mellon University and HP; January-August 2012

MHCI Capstone Project, Project and UX Lead

Project and UX Lead for an 8-month project researching, designing, and prototyping a mobile product that discovers the intersection between digital and physical for social expressions; responsible for prioritizing and facilitating work, driving the research and design strategy for the project, determining, gathering, and compiling user research, producing wireframes and prototypes, communicating with the client and faculty, defining content and structure of final spring and summer reports

Independent Museum Consulting Research:

Independent research, exhibition preparation work, and cataloging of artifacts

- Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, Washington, DC. Summer 2010
- Norwalk Historical Society, Norwalk, CT. Spring 2010
- National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK. Spring 2009

Athienou Archaeological Project, Cyprus, Summer 2007

Archaeological Dig Supervisor

Supervised students, kept records, wrote final report

Davidson College, July 2007-June 2008

Evening Operations Manager

College Union Fellow, supervised desk workers and managers, distributed daily information to the campus

Edinburgh International Film Festival, June 2009

Display Specialist

Organized and created displays for the EIFF's films and events

LEADERSHIP

Davidson Outdoors Club Leader

Completed Wilderness Leadership Skills Course; led outdoor trips and planned the itinerary, menu, and transportation