

Taha Hassan

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I work on issues of explainability, accountability, and trust in the use of decision information systems in organizational work. I'm especially interested in how editorial human-AI trust is assessed in traditionally protected and resource-constrained settings (higher education, trail management, rural non-profit work).

My research leverages a mix of quantitative methods (analysis of variance, multivariate regression, dimensionality reduction) and qualitative methods (surveys, user-studies, interviews, focus groups).

EDUCATION

Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA
Ph.D., Computer Science Aug 2016 - Aug 2024
Advisor: Donald Scott McCrickard
Thesis: On Trust, Editorial Intent, and Recommender Systems for Supporting Higher Education

Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA
MS (Non-Thesis), Computer Science Aug 2013 - Dec 2015
Advisor: Naren Ramakrishnan

Lahore University of Management Sciences Lahore, Pakistan
BS, Electrical Engineering Aug 2008 - May 2012
Advisor: Nauman Zaffar

TEACHING

University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL
Instructor of Record (CS 451/551: Data Science) Fall 2025
Instructor of Record (CS 691: Deep Generative Models for Physical Processes) Spring 2025

Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA
Instructor of Record (CS 3724: Intro. to Human-Computer Interaction) Spring 2023
Instructor of Record (CS 1064: Intro. to Programming in Python) Summer 2021

Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA
Graduate Teaching Assistant (CS 5724: Usability Engineering) Summer 2022
Graduate Teaching Assistant (CS 1064: Intro. to Prog. in Python) Summer 2020

RESEARCH

Conference Proceedings/Journals

- [CHI'26] Posada J., **Hassan, T.**, Chen L., Yarnall L. and Gong J. Exploring student feedback needs and design opportunities in data storytelling education. Accepted at 2026 ACM Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

- **[GROUP’27]** Cao Y., **Hassan, T.**, Patel J., & McCrickard, D.S. Trail triage: Identifying collaborative workflows in trail management assisted by crowdsourced reports. Accepted at *2027 ACM Conf. on Supporting Groupwork*.
- **[CSCW’25]** Wang WL, Andrus N., **Hassan, T.**, Fan J., Cao Y., Asante J., Saaty, M., Haqq, D., & McCrickard, D.S. Writing home from afar: Connecting distant families through sharing of outdoor experiences with digital diaries. Accepted at *2025 ACM Conf. on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, San Jose, Costa Rica*.
- **[CSCW’24]** **Hassan, T.**, Edmison, B., Cox, L., Louvet, M., Williams, D., Knijnenburg, B., & McCrickard, D.S. Simplify, consolidate, intervene: Facilitating institutional support with mental models of learning management system use. Accepted at *2024 ACM Conf. on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, San Jose, Costa Rica*.
- **[CHI’24]** Kotut, LJ., Haisum, N., **Hassan, T.**, Haqq, D., & Saaty, M. (2022). Griot-style methodology: Longitudinal study of navigating design with unwritten stories. In *Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, O’ahu, Honolulu, Hawai’i*.
- **[CHIPlay’22]** Saaty, M., Haqq, D., Beyki, M., **Hassan, T.**, & McCrickard, D.S. (2022). Pokémon Go with social distancing: Social media analysis of players’ experiences with location-based games. In *Proceedings of the 2022 ACM Annual Symposium on Computer-Human Interaction in Play, Bremen, Germany*. [**Acceptance Rate: 29%**]
- **[UMAP’21]** **Hassan, T.**, Edmison, B., Stelter, T., & McCrickard, D.S. (2021). Learning to trust: Understanding editorial authority and trust in recommender systems for education. In *Proceedings of the 29th ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization, Utrecht, the Netherlands* (pp. 24-32). [**Acceptance Rate: 24.1%**]
- **[ITiCSE’20]** **Hassan, T.**, Edmison, B., Cox, L., Louvet, M., Williams, D., & McCrickard, D. S. (2020). Depth of Use: An Empirical Framework to Help Faculty Gauge the Relative Impact of Learning Management System Tools. In *Proceedings of the 2020 ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, Trondheim, Norway* (pp. 47-53). [**Acceptance Rate: 27.5%**]
- **[TSG’13]** **Hassan, T.**, Javed, F., & Arshad, N. (2013). An empirical investigation of VI trajectory-based load signatures for non-intrusive load monitoring. In *IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid* (5(2), pp. 870-878).

Tutorials

- **[SIGCSE’26]** Chen L, **Hassan, T.**, Yarnall L, and Gong, J. (2026). StoryStudio Plus: Coaching Data Storytelling Competency in the Era of AI. In *Proceedings of the 2026 ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, St. Louis, MO*.

Book Chapters

- **[Learning Design and Technology]** Williams, D., Cox II, L., Ellis, M., Edmison, B., **Hassan, T.**, Bond, A., Warnick, Q., Clark, V., Yaffe, D., Domino, M. & Haqq, D. (2022). Data-informed learning design in a Computer Science course. In *Learning Design and Technology* (Springer).

Workshop Papers, Posters and Demos (Lightly Reviewed)

- [SIGCSE'26] Janakiraman A, **Hassan, T.**, Li S, Chen L, and Gong, J. (2025). CASTCurate: An agentic system to accelerate the collection and annotation of data-driven stories. In *Proceedings of the 2026 ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, St. Louis, MO* [Poster].
- [ITiCSE'25] Henry, RW., **Hassan, T.**, and Gong, Jiaqi. (2025). StoryStudio: Enhancing data storytelling education with explainable, narrative-driven storytelling. In *Proceedings of the 2025 ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, Nijmegen, the Netherlands* [Poster].
- [CHI'25] Cao Y., **Hassan, T.**, Fan J., Saaty M., Wang W., Stelter TL, and McCrickard DS. (2025). Listening to the wild: Risk and preparedness in hiker-wildlife conflicts during outdoor recreation. In *Proceedings of the 2025 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* [Late-Breaking Work].
- [CHI'24] Saaty M, Andrus N, Abdelgawad N, Chandran J, Noneman B, Jackson J, Alading K, **Hassan T.**, McCrickard DS, Mishra S, and Wernstedt K. (2024). Is long-distance hiking an emotional journey? Evaluating emotions and weather effects on the Appalachian Trail. In *Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* [Late-Breaking Work].
- [WWW'19] **Hassan, T.**, & McCrickard, D.S. (2019). Trust and trustworthiness in social recommender systems. In *Companion Proceedings of the 2019 World Wide Web Conference, San Francisco, CA* [Workshop].
- [ASONAM'19] **Hassan, T.**, Edmison, B., Cox, L., Louvet, M., & Williams, D. (2019). Exploring the context of course rankings on online academic forums. In *Proceedings of the 2019 IEEE/ACM Conference on Advances in Social Network Analysis and Mining* [Poster].
- [WebScience'19] **Hassan, T.** (2019). On bias in social reviews of university courses. In *Companion Proceedings of the 10th ACM Conference on Web Science, Boston, MA* [Workshop].
- [MLRec'17] **Hassan, T.**, Arshad, N., Dahlquist, E., & McCrickard, D.S. (2017). Collaborative filtering for household load prediction given contextual information. In *Proceedings of the SIAM Workshop on Machine Learning in Recommender Systems (in conjunction with SDM'17)* [Workshop].

GRANTS AND AWARDS

AutoMR: AI-assisted automation of DIT2 moral reasoning inventory, \$20k. (PI)

Research grant

July 2025

Source: UA School of Education

Human-centered AI for accelerating productivity and outreach in non-profit work.

Travel grant

September 2025

Source: Communities in Schools of Greater Tarrant County (CISGTC)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Associate Chair (1AC/2AC)

ACM Conf. on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work [CSCW] 2025-2026

Session Chair

ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education [SIGCSE] 2026

ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work [CSCW] 2024-25

Program Committee Member (LBR + Demos)

ACM Conf. on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization [UMAP] 2022-2024

Program Committee Member

ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work [CSCW] 2023-2026

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems [CHI] 2025

ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education [SIGCSE] 2019-2023

ACM Conf. on Innov. and Tech. in Comp. Sci. Education [ITiCSE] 2021-23, 2025-26

European Conference on Information Systems [ECIS] 2024

Reviewer

(ACM) Transactions on Recommender Systems [TORS]

(Springer) Education and Information Technologies [EAIT]

(IEEE) Transactions on Smart Grid [TSG]

(Elsevier) Smart Health

Student Volunteer

ACM Conference on Recommender Systems [RecSys] 2021-2023

ACM Web Conference [WWW] 2022

ACM Tapia Conference on Celebration of Diversity in Computing [TAPIA] 2022

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Conference Talks (Full Paper Sessions)

- *ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, San Jose, Costa Rica [CSCW'24]* 2024
- *ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation, and Personalization, Utrecht, the Netherlands (Session: Trust) [UMAP'21]* 2021
- *ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education Trondheim, Norway (Session: Tools and Assessments) [ITiCSE'20]* 2020

Conference Talks (Short Papers, Posters and Workshops)

- *IEEE/ACM Conference on Advances in Social Media Analysis and Mining (Poster) [ASONAM'19]* 2019
- *ACM Web Conference (Workshop: FATES on the Web) [WWW'19]* 2019
- *ACM Conf. on Web Science (Workshop: Handling Web Bias) [WebSci'19]* 2019

Attendance

ACM Conf. on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work [CSCW] 2024

ACM Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems [CHI] 2022-2024

ACM Tapia Conf. on Celebration of Diversity in Computing [TAPIA] 2022

<i>ACM Conf. on User Modeling, Adaptation, and Personalization [UMAP]</i>	2021-2022
<i>ACM Conf. on Recommender Systems [RecSys]</i>	2021-2022
<i>ACM Conf. on Innov. and Tech. in Computer Science Education [ITiCSE]</i>	2020-2021
<i>ACM Web Conf. [WWW]</i>	2019
<i>ACM Conf. on Web Science [WebSci]</i>	2019
<i>IEEE/ACM Conf. on Advances in Social Network Analysis/Mining [ASONAM]</i>	2019
<i>SIAM Conf. on Data Mining [SDM]</i>	2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
<i>Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Computer Science</i>	2024-2025
Technology-enhanced Learning and Online Strategies (TLOS), Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, VA
<i>Graduate Research Assistant, Learning Systems Group</i>	2016-2024
Illumina, Inc.	San Diego, CA
<i>Data Science Intern</i>	Summer 2018
Collins Aerospace	Cedar Rapids, IA
<i>Data Science Intern</i>	Summer 2017
Lahore University of Management Sciences	Lahore, Pakistan
<i>Research Associate, Energy Systems Group</i>	2012-2013

REFERENCES

D. Scott McCrickard	mccricks@vt.edu
<i>Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Virginia Tech</i>	
<i>Co-director, Human-Centered Design program, Virginia Tech</i>	
Jiaqi Gong	jiaqi.gong@ua.edu
<i>Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Alabama</i>	
<i>Director, Alabama Center for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence</i>	
Lujie Chen	lujiec@umbc.edu
<i>Assistant Professor, Dept. of Information Systems, Univ. of Maryland Baltimore County</i>	
Bob Edmison	kedmison@vt.edu
<i>Collegiate Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Virginia Tech</i>	
Daron Williams	debo9@vt.edu
<i>Director of Instructional Design, Technology-Enhanced Learning and Online Strategies (TLOS), Virginia Tech</i>	
