

# Debarati Das

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## Education

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### University of Minnesota Twin Cities

PH.D. CANDIDATE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE - GPA: 4.00/4.00

Minneapolis, MN

August 2019 - Feb 2026

- **Research Interest:** Computational social science & Natural Language Processing
- **Advisors:** Dongyeop Kang and Jaideep Srivastava

### University of Minnesota Twin Cities

M.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE - GPA: 3.70/4.00

Minneapolis, MN

August 2017 - August 2019

## Experience

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### FULL TIME RESEARCH

#### Microsoft — SENIOR APPLIED SCIENTIST

Aug 2025 – Present

- Understanding and steering the impact of Generative AI on human productivity.

### GRADUATE RESEARCH

#### Office of Applied Research, Microsoft Redmond — RESEARCHER

Sep 2024 – Jul 2025

- Developing scaffolding for contextual personalization in workplace email drafting.

#### Microsoft Research, Redmond — RESEARCH INTERN

Jun 2024 – Sep 2024

- Developed a RAG-assisted answer drafting tool for Enterprise QA systems. Conducted user study analysis to understand knowledge-seeking behavior on community QA forums.

#### Minnesota NLP Lab — RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jun 2021 – Present

- Built a *human-expert dataset and benchmark* to understand legal document drafting and associated planning with AI assistance.
- Developed a fine-grained dataset of conflicting societal values and preferences for *Human-LLM alignment*.
- Conducted rigorous analysis to identify *biases and artifacts from LLM-generated synthetic data*.
- Leveraged *LLMs for graph reasoning* tasks (node classification) to enhance prediction accuracy and efficiency.
- Explored training data distribution balancing for *multi-style text transfer* using a T5-based joint style analysis and generation pipeline.

#### Minnesota Computational Advertising Laboratory — RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jul 2019 – Dec 2023

- Developed a BERT-based *political ideology classifier* incorporating textual and behavioral user features.
- Built AdBERT, a *few-shot learning framework* to align tweets with Super Bowl TV advertisements.
- Implemented *latent attribute detection* for gender, location, and age, and BERT-based classifiers for sentiment and emotion.

#### 3M — NLP RESEARCH INTERN

May 2020 – Aug 2020

- Developed a *Neural Extractive Summarization* pipeline from MIMIC-III ICU data using BERT; evaluated query embeddings for clinical text summarization.

#### 3M — RESEARCH & DEV INTERN

May 2019 – Aug 2019

- Explored *Bayesian Neural Nets for large-scale time series*; implemented Variational Inference and Dropout-based Bayesian approximation for uncertainty quantification.

### UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

#### Microsoft Research, India — RESEARCH & DEV INTERN

Jan 2017 – Jun 2017

- Developed a *cloud-based pipeline* analyzing smartphone and automobile sensor data for real-time driver safety and accident avoidance prediction.

#### Indian Institute of Science — RESEARCH INTERN

Jun 2016 – Oct 2016

- Implemented a *protein-protein interface classifier* to determine quaternary structure viability, accelerating drug design efforts.

#### Indian Institute of Technology — RESEARCH INTERN

May 2015 – Aug 2015

- Developed decentralized search-based algorithms to inject *virality in social networks* by influencing meme propagation trajectories.
- Built a probabilistic ordering model where influence propagation *mimics meme flow* in real-world social networks.

## Selected Publications

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### COMPUTER SCIENCE PAPERS

- Not Just My Style: Toward Contextual Personalization in AI-Assisted Workplace** TIIS [Paper Link]
  - **Communication**  
D. Das, S. Mysore, C. Hill, D. Kang and B. Sarrafzadeh
- Prototypical Human-AI Collaboration Behaviors from LLM-Assisted Writing in the Wild** EMNLP 2025 [Paper Link]
  - S. Mysore, D. Das, H. Cao and B. Sarrafzadeh
- LawFlow: Collecting and Simulating Lawyers' Thought Processes** COLM 2025 [Paper Link]
  - D. Das, K. Le\*, R. Parkar\*, K. Langis, B. Madson, C. Berryman, R. Willis, D. Moses, B. McDonnell, D. Schwarcz, and D. Kang
- Under the Surface: Tracking the Artifactuality of LLM-Generated Data** TACL [Under Review]
  - D. Das, K. Langis, A. Martin, J. Kim, M. Lee, Z. Kim, S. Hayati, R. Owan, B. Hu, R. Parkar, R. Koo, J. Park, A. Tyagi, L. Ferland, S. Roy, V. Liu and D. Kang
- Which Modality should I use - Text, Motif, or Image? Understanding Graphs with Large Language Models** NAACL 2024 [Paper Link]
  - D. Das, I. Gupta, J. Srivastava and D. Kang
- Balancing Effect of Training Dataset Distribution of Multiple Styles for Multi-Style Text Transfer** ACL 2023 [Paper Link]
  - D. Das, D. Ma and D. Kang
- AdBERT: An Effective Few Shot Learning Framework for Aligning Tweets to Superbowl Advertisements** W-NUT @ COLING 2022 [Paper Link]
  - D. Das, R. Chenchu, M. Abdollahi, J. Huh and J. Srivastava
- Scalable Clustering by Aggregating Representatives in Hierarchical Groups** Pattern Recognition [Paper Link]
  - W. Xie, Z. Liu, D. Das, B. Che and J. Srivastava

### APPLICATION PAPERS

- Thinking Like A Lawyer In The Age Of Generative AI: Cognitive Limits On AI Adoption Among Lawyers** SSRN [Paper Link]
  - D. Schwartz, D. Das, D. Kang and B. McDonell
- Publics' Perceptions of Legitimacy in Corporate Social Advocacy: A Computational Analysis of the Influence of Ideological Congruence** Public Relations Review [Paper Link]
  - H. Xu, D. Das, J. Huh, H. Rim and J. Srivastava
- Influence of Consumers' Temporary Affect on Ad Engagement: A Computational Research Approach** Journal of Advertising [Paper Link]
  - X. Lu, D. Das, J. Huh and J. Srivastava
- Rebuilding Social Connection and Enhancing Advertising Effects Through the Nostalgic Appeal during the Pandemic** Journal of Advertising Research Under Review
  - K. Kim, B. Chang, D. Das, S. Muthya, J. Huh, D. Kang and J. Srivastava

## Awards & Accomplishments

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- 2024 **Recipient**, AnitaB.org Advancing Inclusion Scholarship
- 2019 **Recipient**, Computing Research Association-Women (CRA-W) scholarship
- 2016 **Recipient**, Grace Hopper Student Scholarship
- 2016 **Runner Up**, IET India Scholarship
- 2016 **Recipient**, National Network for Mathematical & Computational Biology Research Fellowship
- 2015 **Recipient**, Indian Academy of Sciences Research Fellowship

## Presentations and Talks

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- Microsoft, Redmond** Mar 2025  
LLMs as Sensors and Subjects: Expanding Human-AI Collaboration in Socio-Technical Systems
- Sparkway Learning PythonAI Workshop 2024** Dec 2024  
When AI Learns to Listen: Generative AI in the Social Sciences

## Women in AI and Data Science (WiADS) 2024

LLM-Generated Artifacts and their Impact on the AI Ecosystem

Nov 2024

## 10th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2024)

Beyond Words: Incorporating Graph Data into LLMs for Comprehensive Social System Analysis

Jul 2024

## Megagon Labs

Under the Surface: Tracking the Artifactuality of LLM-Generated Data

May 2024

## Hubbard School of Journalism (JOUR8500), UMN Twin Cities

Computational Techniques Used to Analyze Political Ideologies and Sentiments in Social Media Data

May 2023

## Microsoft Research, Bangalore

Computational Analysis of the Mahabharata

Feb 2017

## Teaching Experience

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### The Practice of DB Systems

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall 2018 – Spring 2024

- Designed/graded assignments, held office hours, and conducted lectures. **Terms:** Spring 2024, Summer 2023, Fall 2022, Summer 2022, Summer 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2018.

### Natural Language Processing

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Spring 2023

- Mentored group projects, designed tutorials, organized research poster presentations, graded assignments, and held office hours.

### CSE TALK Program

INSTRUCTOR

Summer 2023

- Designed course material and trained prospective graduate students on teaching assistant responsibilities.

### Intro to Algorithms & Data Structures (Java); Intro to Algorithms & Program Development (Python)

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall 2018 – Fall 2023

- Graded assignments and held office hours. **Terms:** Fall 2023, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018.

## Academic Service

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### Reviewer

Fall 2022 - Present

#### CS Conferences and Workshops:

- ACM SIGCHI 2026
- NLP4PosImpact 2025 @ ACL 2025
- COLING 2025
- IC2S2 2024, 2025
- In2Writing Workshop @ CHI 2024, 2025
- Pluralistic-Alignment @ Neurips 2024
- CustomNLP4U @ EMNLP 2024
- ARR [2024 - Feb, June, August]
- WinNLP Workshop @ EMNLP 2024
- LREC-COLING 2024
- NLP+CSS Workshop @ EMNLP 2023

#### Journals and other scholarly venues:

- Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data
- Transactions on Visualizations and Computer Graphics
- Humanities and Social Sciences Communications
- Computational Communication Research Journal
- Journal of Marketing Communications
- American Academy of Advertising 2023

### Co-organizer

MINNESOTA NLP SEMINAR

Fall 2021 - Fall 2023

- Organized seminars hosting speakers from different fields of Natural Language Processing

### Officer

COMPUTER SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Fall 2020 - Fall 2022

- Advocate for CS graduate students
- Organize social and academic events for grad students.

## Member

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (CS-IDEA)

Spring 2020 - Fall 2025

- Work collaboratively to encourage students and staff to grow in their understanding of diversity.
- Promote equal opportunity for all.

## Coordinator

WOMEN IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Spring 2019 - Spring 2022

- Encourage and build a support system for female-identifying and non-binary graduate students in the department.
- Facilitate networking between academic/industry professionals and students.
- Organize events and outreach activities to create awareness about inclusion and diversity issues.

## Mentorship Experience

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[1]	<b>Khanh Chi Le</b> , UMN CS BS → PhD @ UMN TC	Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
[2]	<b>Ritik Parkar</b> , UMN CS MS → Thomson Reuters	Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
[3]	<b>Jianing Wen</b> , UMN CS MS → PhD @ NorthEastern University	Summer 2024 – Spring 2025
[4]	<b>Amrutha Shetty</b> , UMN CS MS → Malec Engineering	Spring 2024
[5]	<b>Sanjali Roy</b> , UMN CS UG	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
[6]	<b>Ishaan Gupta</b> , UMN CS UG → Intern @ Seagate	Fall 2023
[7]	<b>David Ma</b> , UMN CS MS → Optiver	Fall 2021 – Spring 2021
[8]	<b>Josh Spitzer-Resnick</b> , UMN CS MS → Solventum	Fall 2021
[9]	<b>Aryan Srivastava</b> , High School → BS @ Purdue	Fall 2021
[10]	<b>Haoyu Gong</b> , UMN CS PhD	Spring 2021
[11]	<b>Aadesh Salecha</b> , UMN CS UG → Stanford	Spring 2021 – Spring 2022
[12]	<b>Ahmed Hassan</b> , UMN CS UG	CSE Mentorship Program, Fall 2020
[13]	<b>Hao Zou</b> , UMN CS UG	Fall 2020
[14]	<b>Roopana Chenchu</b> , UMN CS MS → Google	Spring 2020 – Spring 2021
[15]	<b>Mayura Nene</b> , UMN CS MS → Amazon	WISE Mentorship Program, Spring 2020

## Skills

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<b>Programming</b>	Python, Java
<b>ML/ NLP</b>	Tensorflow, Pytorch, WEKA, OpenCV, NLTK, Spacy
<b>Social Network Analysis</b>	NetworkX, Gephi, GraphViz
<b>DevOps</b>	SQLite, MongoDB, AWS, Docker
<b>OS</b>	Linux, Windows, OSX