

# RENE F. KIZILCEC

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Communication, Stanford University, 2017

M.S., Statistics, Stanford University, 2015

B.A. (1<sup>st</sup> class honors), Philosophy and Economics, University College London, 2011

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Information Science, Cornell University, 2018 - Present

Assistant Research Professor, School of Computing, Informatics, and Decision Systems Engineering, Arizona State University, 2017 - 2018

Director of Digital Learning Research, Stanford Graduate School of Education, Stanford University, 2017 – 2018

Data Scientist (part-time), Facebook, Core Data Science, 2014 - 2015

Core Data Science Summer Intern, Facebook, 2014

Core Data Science Summer Intern, Facebook, 2013

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Best Paper Award, ACM Learning at Scale Conference, 2018

Best Paper Award, ACM Learning at Scale Conference, 2018

Nathan Maccoby Outstanding Dissertation Award, Stanford University, 2017

Best Paper Award, ACM Learning at Scale Conference, 2017

Computational Social Science Fellowship, Stanford University (\$10,000 research funding), 2015

Stanford Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship (Ph.D. funding for 3 years), 2014-17

Department of Communication Fellowship, Stanford University, 2011

UCL Alumni Scholarship, University College London, 2011

## GRANTS

Cornell Active Learning Initiative, 2019 (3 years; Co-PI)

Cornell Institute for the Social Sciences Collaborative Project (3 years; Co-PI)

SPICE (Student Project for Intellectual Enhancement) grant (\$1,500) for the Stanford Workshop on Questionnaire Design, Stanford Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education, 2014

Faculty Seed Grant for Innovation in Researching Online Courses (\$7,100), Stanford Office of the Vice Provost for Online Learning, 2013

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

Davis, D., Kizilcec, R. F., Hauff, C., & Houben, G.-J. (2019). Scaling Effective Learning Strategies: Retrieval Practice and Long-Term Knowledge Retention in MOOCs. *Journal of Learning Analytics*, 5(3), 21-41.

Maldonado-Mahauad, J., Pérez-Sanagustín, M., Kizilcec, R. F., Morales, N., & Muñoz-Gama, J. (2018). Mining theory-based patterns from Big data: Identifying self-regulated learning strategies in Massive Open Online Courses. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 80, 179-196.

Kizilcec, R. F., Saltarelli, A., Reich, J., & Cohen, G. L. (2017). Closing global achievement gaps in MOOCs. *Science*, 355(6322), 249.

Kizilcec, R. F. & Cohen, G. L. (2017). Eight-minute self-regulation intervention raises educational attainment at scale in individualist but not collectivist cultures. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, 114(17), 4348–4353.

Kizilcec, R. F., Perez-Sanagustin, M., & Maldonado, J. J. (2017). Self-Regulated learning strategies predict learner behavior and goal attainment in Massive Open Online Courses. *Computers & Education*, 104, 18-33.

Eckles, D., Kizilcec, R. F., & Bakshy, E. (2016). Estimating peer effects in networks with peer encouragement designs. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, 113(27), 7316-7322.

Li, J., Kizilcec, R. F., Bailenson, J. N., & Ju, W. (2016). Social Robots and Virtual Agents as Lecturers for Video Instruction. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 55(B), 1222-1230.

Kizilcec, R. F. & Schneider, E. (2015). Motivation as a Lens to Understand Online Learners. *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)*, 22(2).

Kizilcec, R. F., Bailenson, J. N., & Gomez, C. J. (2015). The Instructor's Face in Video Instruction: Evidence from Two Large-Scale Field Studies. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 107(3), 724-739.

Kizilcec, R. F., Schneider, E., Cohen, G. L., & McFarland, D. A. (2014). Encouraging Forum Participation in Online Courses with Collectivist, Individualist, and Neutral Motivational Framings. *eLearning Papers*, 37, 13-22.

Thille, C., Schneider, D. E., Kizilcec, R. F., Piech, C., Halawa, S. A., & Greene, D. K. (2014). The Future of Data-Enriched Assessment. *Research & Practice in Assessment*, 9(2), 5-16.

Aymerich-Franch, L., Kizilcec, R. F., & Bailenson, J. N. (2014). The Relationship between Virtual Self Similarity and Social Anxiety. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, 8(944).

### **Refereed and Published Proceedings**

Kizilcec, R. F. & Saltarelli, A. (2019). Psychologically Inclusive Design. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*.

Chaturapruek, S., Dee, T. S., Johari, R., Kizilcec, R. F., & Stevens, M. L. (2018). How a data-driven course planning tool affects college students' GPA: Evidence from two field experiments. In *Proceedings of the Fifth ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S)*.

Kizilcec, R. F., Bakshy, E., Eckles, D., & Burke, M. (2018). Social Influence and Reciprocity in Online Gift Giving. In *Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*.

Davis, D., Kizilcec, R. F., Hauff, C., & Houben, G.-J. (2018). The Half-Life of MOOC Knowledge: A Randomized Trial Evaluating the Testing Effect in MOOCs. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning Analytics and Knowledge (LAK)*.

Kizilcec, R. F., Davis, G. M., & Cohen, G. L. (2017). Towards equal opportunities in MOOCs: Affirmation reduces gender & social-class achievement gaps in China. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S)*.

Davis, D., Jivet, I., Kizilcec, R. F., Chen, G., Hauff, C., & Houben, G.-J. (2017). Follow the Successful Crowd: Facilitating Social Comparison Raises MOOC Completion Rates. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning Analytics and Knowledge (LAK)*.

Kizilcec, R. F. (2016). How Much Information? Effects of Transparency on Trust in an Algorithmic Interface. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*.

Kizilcec, R. F., Perez-Sanagustin, M., & Maldonado, J. J. (2016). Recommending Self-Regulated Learning Strategies Does Not Improve Performance in a MOOC. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S)*.

Kizilcec, R. F., & Halawa, S. A. (2015). Attrition and Achievement Gaps in Online Learning. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Learning at Scale (L@S)*.

Krause, M., & Kizilcec, R. F. (2015). To Play or not to Play: Response Quality and Task Complexity in Games and Paid Crowdsourcing. In *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing* (HCOMP).

Kizilcec, R. F., Papadopoulos, K., & Sritanyaratana, L. (2014). Showing Face in Video Instruction: Effects on Information Retention, Visual Attention, and Affect. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI).

Williams, J. J., Kizilcec, R. F., Klemmer, S., & Russell, D. (2014). Innovations for Learning at Scale Workshop. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI).

Zhang, K. & Kizilcec, R. F. (2014). Anonymity in Social Media: Effects of Content Controversiality and Social Endorsement on Sharing Behavior. In *Proceedings of the AAAI International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media* (ICWSM).

Kizilcec, R. F., Piech, C., & Schneider, E. (2013). Deconstructing Disengagement: Analyzing Learner Subpopulations in Massive Open Online Courses. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning Analytics and Knowledge* (LAK).

Kizilcec, R. F. (2013). Collaborative Learning in Geographically Distributed and In-person Groups. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education* (AIED).

## **Book Chapters**

Kizilcec, R. F. & Brooks, C. (2017). Diverse Big Data and Randomized Field Experiments in MOOCs. In C. Lang, G. Siemens, A. Wise, D. Gašević (Eds.), *Handbook of Learning Analytics* (pp. 211-222). Society for Learning Analytics Research.

## **INVITED TALKS**

2018 **Northeast Big Data in Education Conference**, CMU, invited keynote

2018 **University of Michigan**, Academic Innovation speaker series, talk on inclusive learning

2017 **Higher School of Economics**, Russia, invited keynote at higher education conference

2017 **Udemy, Inc.**, talk on supporting continued engagement with online learning at scale

2017 **Kahn Academy**, talk on supporting continued engagement with online learning at scale

2016 **Pontifical Catholic U. of Chile**, talk on social psychological barriers in higher education

2016 **Rosetta Stone**, talk on psychological factors in online courses

2016 **EdTech Meetup RheinMain**, Germany, talk on online education research

2016 **Pratham Symposium**, Stanford, panel on worldwide challenges in education

2016 **MediaX Conference**, Stanford, panel on digital augmentation in education

2016 **Learning Summit**, Stanford, panel discussion on inclusive learning environments

- 2016 **TU Delft**, the Netherlands, talk on psychological interventions in online learning
- 2016 **Coursera Partners Conference**, the Netherlands, talk on strategies to support active learning in MOOCs
- 2015 **UC Berkeley**, Institute of Design, talk on psychological interventions in online learning
- 2015 **MIT**, xTalk series, talk on psychological interventions in online learning
- 2015 **University of Michigan**, MOOC research summit, talk on psychological causes of achievement gaps in online learning
- 2015 **Coursera, Inc.**, talk on learner motivation, social cues, and achievement gaps in online learning
- 2015 **Digital October Center**, Moscow, Russia, talk on instructional design in MOOCs
- 2014 **MediaX Conference**, Stanford, talk on market segmentation of online interactions based on motivation

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (NON-ARCHIVAL)**

- 2018 **IC2S2**, “Heterogenous Effects of Incentives in Mobile Learning in Africa”
- 2018 **CODE@MIT**, “Criteria-based Randomization”
- 2016 **BayLearn Conference**, “Psychologically Welcoming Learning Environments”
- 2016 **SPSP**, “Closing the Global Achievement Gap in Online Learning”
- 2015 **CODE@MIT**, “Peer encouragement designs: Estimating peer effects of social feedback”
- 2014 **eMOOCs**, “Encouraging Forum Participation [...] with Motivational Framings”
- 2014 **Learning with MOOCs**, “The Promise of Social Learning & Annotation”

## **TEACHING**

### **Courses**

- Spring 2019 **INFO 5200**: Introduction to Learning Analytics, Cornell University
- Fall 2018 **INFO 6750**: Causal Inference and Design of Experiments, Cornell University

### **Invited and ad-hoc teaching**

- 2016 **Invited Guest Lecture**, Learning Analytics Seminar, Stanford University
- 2014, 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, “Online Learning Research Methods”, Stanford University
- 2014 **Invited Guest Lecture**, Learning Analytics Seminar, George Mason University
- 2014 **Co-Instructor**, Workshop on questionnaire design, Stanford University

- 2010, 2011    **Technology Camp Director**, TIC Summer Camp, McLean, VA.  
Held teacher-training workshops, designed and supervised programming classes.
- 2009            **Technology Camp Counselor**, TIC Summer Camp, McLean, VA.  
Taught programming and web design to kids (ages 7 to 16).

## **ADVISING**

### **Doctoral students**

- Ji Yong Kim (Cornell Information Science)
- Christoph Dann (CMU; co-advising project with Emma Brunskill)
- Rama Varanasi (Cornell Information Science; co-advised)
- Amanda Purington (Cornell Communication; co-advised)

### **Masters' students**

- Jancey Taveras (Cornell CIS)
- Camille Lee (Cornell CIS)
- Kathryn Papadopoulos (Stanford in Symbolic Systems; now at Google)

### **Undergraduate students**

- Max Chen (Cornell CIS)
- Daniel Goldfarb (Cornell CIS)
- Anna Kambhampaty (Cornell CIS)
- Souleiman Benhida (Cornell CIS)
- Johnny Winston (Stanford Symbolic Systems)
- Lalida Sritanyaratana (Stanford HCI course community teaching assistant; now at Google)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

- 2019            **Program Committee Member**, ACM SIG CHI
- 2019            **Program Committee Member**, ACM CSCW
- 2017-19, '15   **Program Committee Member**, ACM Learning at Scale Conference
- 2017            **Program Committee Member**, eMOOCs Conference

2017           **Program Committee Member**, Coursera Partners Conference  
2016           **Program Committee Member**, Learning with MOOCs Conference  
Since 2016   **Reviewer**, Computers & Education  
Since 2016   **Reviewer**, IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies  
Since 2014   **Reviewer**, ACM Learning @ Scale Conference  
Since 2013   **Reviewer**, ACM CHI Human Factors in Computing Systems Conference  
2017           **Reviewer**, Journal of Learning Analytics  
2017           **Reviewer**, International Journal of Artificial Intelligence in Education  
2017           **Reviewer**, International Conference on Learning Analytics & Knowledge  
2016           **Reviewer**, ACM CSCW Conference  
2016           **Reviewer**, Psychological Science  
2016           **Reviewer**, Oxford University Press  
2016, 2014   **Reviewer**, Journal of Computer Assisted Learning  
2015           **Reviewer**, Computers in Human Behavior  
2015           **Reviewer**, IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing  
2014           **Reviewer**, ACM TOCHI Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction  
2014           **Workshop Co-Organizer**, ACM CHI Human Factors in Computing Systems Conference

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

Harvard Business Review, We Need Transparency in Algorithms, But Too Much Can Backfire, July 2018

Xinhua News, Exercise devised to boost completion rates of some online learning courses, April 2017

The Australian, Online Primer Fails in Collectivist Cultures, April 2017

EdSurge, Study Finds Tactics to Help Close Global MOOC Achievement Gap, February 2017

The Australian, Welcome effort boosts MOOCs, February 2017

PBS Rewire, 'Taking an Online Course? Writing Out Your Reasons Why Might Help You Finish', January 2017

Inside Higher Ed, A Sense of Belonging on Inside Higher Ed, January 2017

Education Week, Practical Guidance from MOOC Research: Student Diversity, July 2015

BBC, Moocs data offers promise of perfect teaching, October 2013

ACM Tech News, Learning analytics at Stanford takes huge leap forward with MOOCs, April 2013