

KE-ROU WANG

EDUCATION

PhD in Informatics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, May 2026 (Pass with no revision)
MS in Information Management, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2020
MS in Music Technology, National Chiao Tung University, 2013
BA in Music, National Tsing Hua University, 2011

Ph.D. Overall GPA: 3.98
Master Overall GPA: 4.0

EMPLOYMENT

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign January 2021 - May 2026
Graduate Teaching Assistant, School of Information Sciences Champaign, IL

- Designed and delivered lectures/discussions in Data Science, HCI, and Data Ethics.
- Mentored student teams on research design, quantitative analysis, and result interpretation, guiding course projects through structured feedback and iterative improvement.

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign August 2020 - December 2020
Graduate Research Assistant, School of Information Sciences Champaign, IL

- Directed data analysis workflow for **LifeSafe**, a mobile safety platform adopted by 200+ universities; applied ML/NLP techniques to 200k+ safety reports and improved response quality.
- Conducted large-scale analysis of social media data for **SaferIllinois**, UIUC's official COVID-19 app; identified engagement patterns and informed user communication strategies.
- Led a cross-campus collaboration with the **UC Irvine Library** to evaluate its AI chatbot; diagnosed user drop-off behaviors and proposed data-driven improvements that reduced failed sessions and increased query resolution rate.

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign January 2020 - May 2020
Graduate Research Assistant, College of Media Champaign, IL

- Conducted large-scale analysis of political advertising and political discourse on Twitter, involving systematic data crawling, extraction, and preprocessing of social media data.
- Applied computational social science methods, including clustering, classification, and sentiment analysis, to identify political tendencies, patterns of messaging, and audience orientation in political content, and to empirically address research questions.

National Chiao Tung University December 2013 - July 2015
Research Assistant, Architecture Institute, Hsinchu, Taiwan

- Writing project proposals and helping execute research plans, managing finance, and site investigation/discussion.
- Supporting academic exchange program with Syracuse University (2014); assisting international competition – Solar Decathlon Europe 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

- "Exploring commenting behavior in the COVID-19 super-topic on Weibo", CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2021 (Published)

- "Examining interactions between community members and university safety organizations through community-sourced risk systems", ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW), 2021 (Published)

Master's Thesis:

- "Design and implementation of auxiliary performing interface based on EEG", Advised by Prof. Yu-Chung Tseng

In preparation:

- "Evaluating AI-Generative Music in Creativity: From Machine-Centric to Human-Centric", Manuscript in preparation for submission to a culture/society-focused journal or CHI 2027, Advised by Prof. Sever Tipei & Prof. Jessie Chin

PEER REVIEW

Reviewer: iConference (iSchool Annual Conference), 2025 - 2027

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming languages:	Python, R
Tools and Frameworks:	Scikit-learn, Pandas, SpaCy, NumPy
Databases:	SQL, NoSQL
Others:	Text Mining, User study

PRESENTATIONS

At Conferences:

- "Exploring commenting behavior in the COVID-19 super-topic on Weibo", CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems 2021, Talk

Research Showcase:

- "Evaluating AI-Generative Music in Creativity: From Machine-Centric to Human-Centric", UIUC iSchool 2025 Research Showcase, Fall 2025
- "Evaluating AI-Generative Music in Creativity: From Machine-Centric to Human-Centric", UIUC Informatics Reception, Fall 2025

Invited talk:

- "AI, Music, Creativity", Taipei National University of the Arts, Spring 2026
- "Evaluating AI-Generative Music in Creativity: From Machine-Centric to Human-Centric", IS 316 Design of Usable Interface, Fall 2025

SPECIAL AWARD/GRANT

- Sigma Xi Associated Membership, Spring 2025
- Phi Kappa Phi Membership, Spring 2021
- UIUC Informatics, Dissertation Support Fund, Spring 2026
- UIUC Facilitating Learning Excellence Award, Spring 2026

TEACHING

Classes as TA:

- IS 204 Research Design in the Information Sciences: Spring 2021, Fall 2023

- IS 504 Sociotechnical Information Systems: Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Fall 2025
- IS 467 Ethics and Policy for Data Science: Spring 2023
- IS 316 Design of Usable Interface: Spring 2024
- IS 226 Introduction to HCI: Spring 2025
- IS 467 Data Storytelling: Spring 2026