Jacob Hobbs

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia, College of Arts and Sciences, Charlottesville, VA **May 2025**
Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (High Distinction)
Grade*: 3.91/4.00* Minor: *Mathematics* Concentration: *Sexuality Studies (WGS)*
Honors: *Echols Scholar, Lawn Resident (2024-25)*

RESEARCH

[4] **J. Hobbs**, A. Gupta, D. Ulmer, G. Aich, N. Golden, Y. Long, I. Rios-Sialer, J. Mickel, M. K. Scheuerman, R. A. Mujumdar, V. K. Felkner, J. Taylor, W. Agnew. "'I had nobody to turn to': Why LGBTQ+ People Choose (Not) to Use AI Chatbots for Personal Health and Relationship Advice." *Preprint*

[3] S. Weber, A. Wang, A. Gupta, A. Subramonian, D. Ulmer, E. Tanwar, G. Aich, H. Devinney**, J. Hobbs**, J. Mickel, J. Tint, M. Sosto, R. Groshan, S. Astarita, V. Gautam, V. Blaschke, W. Agnew, W. Y. Lee, & Y. Long. "Queer NLP: A Critical Survey on Literature Gaps, Biases and Trends." *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)*. 2026.

[2] C. Buckner, J. Mickel, N. Swaminathan, W. Agnew, **J. Hobbs**, S. Arora, M. Lin, & Y. Long. "Challenges to Grassroots Organization Engagement with AI Policy." *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*. 2026.

[1] **J. Hobbs**. "Theories of 'Sexuality' in Natural Language Processing Bias Research." *Distinguished Majors Thesis*, Department of Computer Science, University of Virginia. 2025.

EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Mellon University — Pittsburgh, PA (*Remote*) **June 2026 – present**
Visiting Researcher

- Advised by William Agnew, I lead a 13-person interdisciplinary research project with Queer in AI that investigates how LGBTQIA+ people interact with LLMs & how LLMs respond to these interactions
- Conducting human-subject research & evaluating models via statistical methods

CoStar Group — Arlington, VA **July 2025 – present**
Software Engineer I

- Engineer on the "Lease Abstraction" project, where I help design & implement an end-to-end LLM pipeline to automatically abstract real estate data from complex commercial lease agreements
- Use AWS Bedrock, TypeScript, and SQL; work directly with human experts to validate abstractions

University of Virginia — Charlottesville, VA **August 2022 – May 2025**
Head Teaching Assistant, Data Structures and Algorithms I

- Led 50+ TAs and was the main point of contact for the (on average) 300 students enrolled in the course
- Worked directly with the instructor to create creative programming assignments and engaging lectures
- Led 2 hours of lab and 4 hours of office hours per week, along with TA planning sessions
- Prepared and gave 12 guest lectures

CoStar Group — Washington, DC **June 2024 – August 2024**
Software Engineering Intern (DevOps)

- Implemented and deployed an in-house Terraform provider, standardizing CoStar cloud resource management and allowing engineers to more efficiently access and manage metadata information
- Used Go to make the provider, Terraform for testing/usage, and YAML + Azure for CI/CD pipelines
- Worked on an Agile DevOps team and presented the provider to CoStar executives

CoStar Group — Richmond, VA **June 2023 – August 2023**

Software Engineering Intern

- Completed a Full Stack micro-frontend application for the Marketing Automation team
- Used TypeScript, React, Node.js, C#, and SQL along with services like Elasticsearch and Datadog to create a 'System Admin' dashboard, allowing developers to monitor and edit active contact enrollment processes
- Worked on an Agile development team and presented my application to CoStar executives

AWARDS

The John A. Herring Scholarship for Social Awareness **May 2025**

- Awarded by The UVA Queer Alumni Network to a student that "demonstrates leadership, citizenship, and fellowship and have actively supported, through volunteerism and advocacy, the LGBTQ Center at UVA."

Louis T. Rader Undergraduate Teaching Award – *Top Honors* **April 2025**

- Awarded by UVA CS Department for "exceptional achievements in teaching"

UVA Queer Alumni Network Wavelength Scholarship **April 2024**

PRESENTATIONS

Challenges to Grassroots Organization Engagement with AI Policy **FAccT – June 2026**

Theories of "Sexuality" in Natural Language Processing Bias Research **Echols Research Symposium – May 2025**

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- **Organizer** for the FAccT 2026 CRAFT workshop titled "Common Ground: Closing the Gap Between Algorithmic Collective Action Research and LGBTQIA2S+ Community Needs"
- **Solo Organizer** for the "Java 101 Workshop" at the 2024 Women in Computer Science @ UVA Hackathon

INVOLVEMENTS

Queer in AI, *Organizer* **October 2024 – present**

- Lead an interdisciplinary research project that investigates how LGBTQIA+ people interact with LLMs & how LLMs respond to these interactions
- Contribute to organizer meetings & various projects within the organization

WXTJ Student Radio, *Co-Director & Radio DJ* **October 2021 – May 2025**

- Managed UVA's student-run radio station, including DJ programming, website management, event direction, and community engagement
- Main point of contact for our 120+ DJs and over 250 active members
- Hosted the Thursday night radio show "tall guy bops"

oSTEM @ UVA, *Events Director* **October 2024 – May 2025**

- Coordinated all events put on by UVA's chapter of Out in STEM, a non-profit organization of queer STEM leaders
- Attended the 14th Annual oSTEM Conference in Portland, Oregon.

College Council, *WGS Department Representative* **August 2024 – May 2025**

- Represented the Women, Gender, and Sexuality department on the College Council, UVA's College of Arts and Sciences governing body.
- Secured over $800 for WGS department events, in addition to representing WGS interests

LGBTQ+ Center, *Volunteer* **August 2023 – May 2025**

- Staffed the LGBTQ+ Center each week, greeting visitors and assisting with queer-centric events

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Significant project experience with: TypeScript/JS, React, Node.js, Java, Go, C#, SQL, Python, AWS Bedrock
- Familiar with: Elasticsearch, Datadog, Django, C++, TensorFlow Keras

INTERESTS

Machine Learning & AI Ethics, AI for the Social Good, AI Safety & Fairness, Social Bias Benchmarking, Equity in Tech Spaces, Web Development, Queer Activism/Education, Gender/Sexuality Theory