

Minh Tran

Ph.D. Student
University of Chicago

Office: John Crerar Library, Room 338
Email: ngminhtran [at] uchicago [dot] edu
Homepage: <https://minhtran.xyz/>

RESEARCH KEYWORDS

Computer science education, personalized learning, instructional technology, human-centered computing

EDUCATION

Degree	Year	University	Field
Ph.D.	2022—	University of Chicago	Computer Science
M.S.	2025	University of Chicago	Computer Science
B.S.	2021	University of Arizona	Computer Science
B.A.	2021	University of Arizona	Psychology

PUBLICATIONS

*equal contribution

Refereed Conference Proceedings

- [1] **Teachers' Experiences Customizing Scratch Instructional Resources with an Interactive AI-Powered Tool**
[Minh Tran](#), Nitzan Koren, David Gonzalez-Maldonado, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), 2027 (to appear)
- [2] **Finding Goldilocks: Exploring Teachers' Approaches to Create Customized Materials for Use-Modify Scratch Activities**
[Minh Tran](#), Nitzan Koren, Elana Blinder, Jen Palmer, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), 2027 (to appear)
- [3] **Scaffolding Teachers to Draw on Students' Cultures and Lived Experiences to Customize Computing Resources with "About My Students" Collage Activity**
[Minh Tran](#), Erica Goodwin, J. Elisabeth Kasner, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
ACM Virtual Global Computing Education Conference (SIGCSE Virtual), 2026 (to appear)
- [4] **Conjuror: A GenAI-powered Tool to Support Teachers Customizing a Scratch Curriculum**
[Minh Tran](#)*, David Gonzalez-Maldonado*, Diana Franklin
ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education (ITiCSE), 2026
BEST PAPER NOMINEE 🏆
- [5] **Can GPT Help? Supporting Teachers to Brainstorm Customized Instructional Scratch Projects**
[Minh Tran](#), David Gonzalez-Maldonado, Elaine Zhou, Diana Franklin
ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), 2025
- [6] **Harmonizing Scratch Encore: Scaffolding K-8 Teachers in Customizing Culturally Responsive Computing Materials**
[Minh Tran](#), Heather Killen, Jen Palmer, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), 2024
- [7] **Strym: A Python Package for Real-time CAN Data Logging, Analysis and Visualization to Work with USB-CAN Interface**
Rahul Bhadani, Matt Bunting, Matthew Nice, [N. Minh Tran](#), Safwan Elmadani, Dan Work, Jonathan Sprinkle
IEEE Workshop on Data-Driven & Intelligent Cyber-Physical Systems for Smart Cities (DI-CPS), 2022

Refereed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- [1] **Helping Teachers Harmonize: Supporting Teachers in Creating Customized, Localized, and Culturally Relevant Instructional Materials**
David Weintrop, Diana Franklin, [Minh Tran](#), Jennifer Palmer
Journal of Technology and Teacher Education (JTATE), 2026
- [2] **Generative AI in Computer Science Education: Challenges and Opportunities**
Diana Franklin, Paul Denny, David Gonzalez-Maldonado, [Minh Tran](#)
Cambridge University Press, Elements in Generative AI in Education, 2025

- [3] **Scratch Encore: Creating and Sustaining Culturally Responsive Computer Science Education**
Rasha Alkhateeb, J. Elisabeth Mesiner, David Weintrop, Jennifer Palmer, Merijke Coenraad, Minh Tran, Diana Franklin
Journal of Technology-Integrated Lessons and Teaching (JTILT), 2025

Refereed Posters and Presentations

- [1] **An Interactive Generative AI Tool to Help Teachers Contextually Customize Scratch Projects**
Minh Tran*, David Gonzalez-Maldonado*, Diana Franklin
ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), 2026
- [2] **Supporting Computer Science Teachers to Customize Culturally Relevant Instructional Materials: Challenges and Iteratively Designed Solutions**
Heather Killen, Minh Tran, Jen Palmer, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2024
- [3] **Prompt Engineering for Large Language Models to Support K-8 Computer Science Teachers in Creating Culturally Responsive Projects**
Minh Tran
ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research Workshop (ICER), 2023

In Submission

- [1] **Title Hidden: Paper about Outcomes of Professional Development on Customized CS Instruction**
Minh Tran, Jen Palmer, David Weintrop, Diana Franklin
- [2] **Title Hidden: Paper about Teacher Professional Dialogue about AI Literacy in Middle-School Classrooms**
Rotem Israel-Fishelson, Minh Tran, Diana Franklin, David Weintrop

TEACHING

- 2025-26 **Instructor of Record**, Creating Computer Games for Learning
University of Chicago, Summer Sessions: Pre-College Program
- 2025-26 **Teaching Assistant**, Computers for Learning
Lectures taught: Constructivism & active learning; Understanding & reducing inequity and cultural appropriation; AI in games
University of Chicago
- 2024-25 **Teaching Assistant**, Inclusive Technology: Design For Underserved and Marginalized Communities
University of Chicago
- 2020-21 **Teaching Assistant**, Object-Oriented Programming and Design (3 offerings)
University of Arizona
- 2020-21 **Math Tutor**, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus
Ironwood Ridge High School

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2026 Best Paper Nominee, ACM Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education (ITiCSE)
- 2021 Lund Wolfe Computer Science Scholarship, University of Arizona

SERVICE & OUTREACH

- 2026— Web Chair — ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research (ICER)
- 2023— Program Committee — ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE)
- 2023— CS Recruitment Cluster Representative — UChicago Graduate Recruitment Initiative Team
- 2025-26 Organizing Committee — Code To PhD (Outreach and Publicity Team Lead)
- 2026 Organizer — Building a Community of Graduate Student CS Education Researchers (Birds of Feather session at SIGCSE)
- 2026 Program Committee — ACM Virtual Global Computing Education Conference (SIGCSE Virtual)
- 2026 Program Committee — International Conference of the Learning Sciences (ICLS)
- 2026 Grad Student Panelist — UChicago Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers
- 2022-25 Volunteer Scientist — South Side Science Festival
- 2024-25 Volunteer Scientist — Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, Science Works
- 2024 Volunteer CS Instructor — Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
- 2022-23 Women's Team Lead — UChicago Graduate Recruitment Initiative Team
- 2022 Grad Student Panelist — Discovery UChicago
- 2019-20 Peer Mentor — Arizona WISE Mentorship Program

OTHER EXPERIENCE

2021–22	Programming and Research Intern — Tectonicus Constructs LLC.
2020–21	Student Researcher — Vertically Integrated Projects Program, University of Arizona
2021	Research Assistant — Compositional Systems Lab, University of Arizona
2021	Lab Intern — SensorLab, University of Arizona
2021	Research Intern — Think Tanks and Civil Society Program, University of Pennsylvania
2019–21	Electronic Tester — Elementary Experimental Particle Physics Group, University of Arizona
2019–20	Web Designer and Developer — Arizona Student Unions

Last updated: October 12, 2026¹

¹CV inspired by Geoff Boeing and Nick Feamster.