

Jaden Cowley · jncowley@uw.edu · jcowley.com

Mixed-methods HCI researcher studying how people use media and sociotechnical systems to navigate information, identity, trust, and risk within or adjacent to high-demand institutions and communities.

EDUCATION

University of Washington

PhD in [Human-Centered Design and Engineering](#) (Advised by Dr. [Kate Starbird](#))

Research Assistant at [Center for an Informed Public](#)

Aug 2025 – Current

Seattle, WA

Texas Tech University (TTU)

MA in [Technical Communication and Rhetoric](#)

Phi Kappa Phi

Aug 2023 – April 2025

Lubbock, TX

Brigham Young University (BYU)

BA in [English](#) ([Legal Studies Minor](#))

Jan 2016 – Apr 2020

Provo, UT

WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Human-Centered Design and Engineering, University of Washington

Graduate Student Research Assistant to Dr. Kate Starbird

Sept 2025 – Current

Seattle, WA

Conducting mixed-methods research on sociotechnical systems, institutional trust, and religious deconstruction. Leading qualitative interview research on podcast-mediated sensemaking and identity transitions, including study design, data collection, analysis, and scholarly publication ([ACM](#)).

Center for an Informed Public (CIP), University of Washington

Judicial Sensemaking and Institutional Communication Researcher

Sept 2025 – Current

Seattle, WA

Conducting qualitative research on judicial sensemaking, institutional communication, and public trust. Contributing to thematic analysis, research synthesis, and public scholarship examining perceptions of the U.S. judiciary.

Election Rapid Research Team

Sept 2026 – Current

Conducting qualitative research on judicial sensemaking, institutional communication, and public trust. Contributing to thematic analysis, research synthesis, and public scholarship examining perceptions of the U.S. judiciary.

The Homefront Group Consulting

User Experience and Technical Communication Consultant

Aug 2023 – Sept 2024

Austin, TX

Conducted user research for public-sector and nonprofit clients through interviews, surveys, and usability testing. Developed prototypes, user flows, and workshops to support human-centered digital service design.

Texas Tech University – User Experience (UX) Lab and Digital Media Office

Student Pupil, Researcher, and Designer

Aug 2023 – May 2025

Lubbock, TX

Completed applied UX research and design projects involving interviews, surveys, usability testing, and user-centered product development.

Supporting historical research documenting the scholarly legacy of Anthony N. B. Garvan. Synthesizing interviews and written recollections, contributing to editorial development, and preparing public-facing research materials.

PUBLICATION AND PRESENTATIONS

Cowley, J. N., Lutz, N., Hsieh, G., & Starbird, K. (2026). "[*I Wasn't the Only One*](#)" – *Podcasting as Sociotechnical Infrastructure for Deconstruction in High-Demand Communities*. ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW 2026). Poster.

Cowley, J. (2025). *Poster presentation on institutional transparency and digital platforms*. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Baltimore, MD.

Cowley, J. (2025). *Poster presentation on the hidden curriculum, college readiness, and educational equity*. International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Fort Collins, CO.

Cowley, J. N. (2025). *Poster presentation on institutional transparency and digital platforms*. Computers and Writing Conference, Athens, GA.

Cowley, J. (2024). *Research proposal on professionalization in technical communication*. Conference on College Composition and Communication, Spokane, WA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas Tech University (TTU)	Aug 2023 – May 2025
<i>Graduate Part-Time Instructor of First-Year Writing (Engl. 1301-1302)</i>	Lubbock, TX

Taught first-year writing courses (ENGL 1301 and 1302), developing curricula, assignments, and assessments focused on academic writing and critical thinking.

Snyder High School	June 2020 – May 2023
<i>Honors English II Instructor</i>	Snyder, TX

Designed and taught honors English curricula for diverse learners. Contributed to a 9% average increase in standardized testing scores through data-informed instructional strategies.

Brigham Young University Research and Writing Center	Sept 2018 – April 2019
<i>Writing Consultant</i>	Provo, UT

Provided individual writing consultations to undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty across academic disciplines.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

CSCW	CSCW 2026, Posters Track
<i>Reviewer</i>	Salt Lake City, UT

Society of Technical Communication (STC at TTU)	April 2024 – Feb 2025
<i>Secretary</i>	Lubbock, TX

Graduate English Society (GES at TTU)	April 2024 – May 2025
<i>Representative of Technical Communication and Rhetoric</i>	Lubbock, TX

East Lubbock Resident Owned Business Initiative (EL ROBI)
Secretary and Grant Writer

Sept 2023 – May 2025
Lubbock, TX

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS)
Full-Time Missionary

Sept 2013 – Sept 2015
Charleston, WV (Region)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Texas Tech University (TTU)

Aug 2023 – April 2025
Lubbock, TX

MA in Technical Communication: Phi Kappa Phi induction

Brigham Young University (BYU)

Jan 2016 - Apr 2020
Provo, UT

Four-time Dean's List placement within the College of Humanities at BYU. Two-time academic scholarship recipient (university-funded).

SKILLS

Technical Skills: Python, HTML, JavaScript, CSS, Figma, Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft 365, Google Workspace, SPSS (including Python integration), and AGILE methodologies.

Certifications: Google UX Certified, Certified Technical Writer, CITI Program Research Certified.

Additional Skills: Expertise in academic formatting styles (MLA, APA, Chicago), proficiency in American Sign Language, and leadership experience (Eagle Scout Award).

REFERENCES

Available upon request.