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# Allison M. Jacobs

816 N Oakland St. #300  
Arlington, VA 22203

OBJECTIVE: Seeking a Human Factors Engineering position with an emphasis on human-systems integration, human performance, user experience and product design.

## EDUCATION

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George Mason University GPA: 3.7/4.0  
Master of Arts degree candidate, May 2010: Human Factors / Applied Cognition Psychology

Massachusetts Institute of Technology GPA: 4.0/5.0  
Bachelor of Science, June 2008: Humanities and Engineering: Anthropology and Electrical Engineering

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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Proficient in ACT-R, Java, XHTML, R, SPSS, and Microsoft Office.  
Proficient in Task Analysis, data analysis, experimental design, and eyetracking methods.  
Experienced in product design, user study design, rapid prototyping, soldering, VectorWorks, and Photoshop.  
Working knowledge of CSS, PHP, Common Lisp, and MATLAB.  
Skilled in web accessibility and usability principles including ADA Section 508 and W3C standards.  
Experience teaching.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**George Mason University / Naval Research Laboratory** **Fairfax, VA / Washington, DC**  
Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. J. Gregory Trafton September 2008 – May 2010

- Working with a humanoid robotic system that runs ACT-R/E (ACT-R / Embodied)
- Conducting Human-Robot Interaction experiments to test various aspects human cognition
- Designed systems to detect human responses such as boredom and distraction remotely and respond appropriately

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Media Lab, Personal Robots Group** **Cambridge, MA**  
Undergraduate Researcher [UROP] with the Autom Project September 2007 – December 2007

- Studied the effect of Autom the robot's social aspect on participants' use and progress
- Analyzed data collected from user studies, which shows that Autom is effective compared to a non-social interface

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Media Lab, Smart Cities Group** **Cambridge, MA**  
Undergraduate Researcher [UROP] with the Humanseat Project September 2006 – February 2007

- Improved the shape, materials, and design of the components of a wearable seat
- Studied different body types to create a parametric model for more accurate prototypes
- Simulated human interaction in a driving situation by connecting a working prototype to a video game system

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Media Lab, Context-Aware Computing Group** **Cambridge, MA**  
Undergraduate Researcher [UROP] with the Voting Technology Project October 2005 – December 2005

- Scheduled 50 participants and wrote questionnaires to collect data from participants to test 3 new voting systems
- Analyzed data and wrote a report of design recommendations

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Burton Conner Dormitory** **Cambridge, MA**  
Desk Manager August 2007 – August 2008

- Oversaw functioning of the reception desk and daily dorm operations
- Managed 30+ employees, including hiring and weekly payroll

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** **Cambridge, MA**  
Residential Tutor for the Women in Technology Program [WTP] June 2007 – July 2007

- Assisted teaching electrical engineering to high school girls during classes and lab assignments

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center** **Greenbelt, MD**  
Intern for the Zeptobolometer Project, Student Internship Program [SIP] June 2006 – August 2006

- Designed an assembly to improve the process to test our Bismuth samples
- Increased the grain size of the Bismuth by ~100 times, greatly increasing the film's quality as an absorber material

## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

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GMU Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Student Chapter Vice President 2009–2010, Social Coordinator 2008–2009  
GMU Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Computer Human Interaction Student Chapter President 2009  
MIT Class of 2008 Alumni Council Vice President 2008-2013

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES), Usability Professionals Association (UPA), Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group in Computer-Human Interaction (ACM-SIGCHI)

## RECOGNITION AND HONORS

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Society of Women Engineers certificate [2004], National Italian American Foundation Scholarship [2004, 2006]